

# Walsall & Willenhall CHRONICLE

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## Hi-de-Hi! actor to raise funds for troupe where he started TV STAR IN VOW TO HELP SAVE GRANGE

REPORT BY DAVID COSGROVE

**HI-DE-HI!** star Jeffrey Holland has vowed to bring his one-man show back to the Black Country to help the Grange Players, where he started his career back in the 1960s.

The group, which has operated from a site on the edge of the Arboretum since the 1950s, is in desperate need of cash to keep it going.



Jeffrey seen during his recent starring role in *Brassed Off*

of *Brassed Off*, said: "I started off my acting career there in the 1960s. Now I'm the patron and have been for a few years."

"It's a tragedy that they are in such a state. I have offered to help with fundraising by doing my one-man play again and other activities as well."

Mr Holland, best known as Spike in the TV sitcom *Hi-De-Hi*, said: "They need to raise a lot of money. It's tragic, the building is in such need of repair. I remember my aunt was actually involved in helping the construction of the building in the first place back in the 1950s. I've got a life-long link with it and it would be immensely sad to see anything happen to it that couldn't be put right."

"It is where I started out and it's the only little theatre of its kind like it in the area – and everyone can use the facilities. We mustn't let the Grange go," it's unique. I've seen many productions there and the standards are very high."

● Survival – Page 4

## JOY FOR SCHOOL FOLLOWING OFSTED THUMBS-UP



Headteacher Andy Seager, primary head Jo Gray and pupils show their joy at the progress made by Bloxwich Academy

STAFF and pupils at a once-struggling school are celebrating a turnaround in its fortunes after it was taken out of special measures by Ofsted.

Inspectors have praised the rapid progress being made at Bloxwich Academy in Walsall since it was ordered to improve in 2013.

The school was previously known as The Mirus Academy but took on its new name after being taken over by Matrix Academy Trust in April 2015.

Since then staff have been working hard to raise standards at the school, which offers

education from nursery to sixth form and has 1,100 pupils.

During the recent Ofsted visit, inspectors noted positive changes in both teaching and pupil behaviour. The school is now rated as 'requires improvement' with some 'good' aspects. Last year, the school was also named the most improved in the country for pupil progress in Key Stage 4.

But head Andy Seager says the team of 140 staff are continuing to drive forward further improvements. "I'm delighted with the transformation that has occurred at Bloxwich

Academy and would like to thank all parents, pupils and staff in particular for their support," he said.

"We will not rest until we reach our aim of being the outstanding education provider all the pupils deserve and the hard work continues in 2018."

During their visit the Ofsted inspectors noted the 'warm' and 'highly-positive relationships' between staff and pupils, with pupils' conduct being 'calm and orderly'. Sixth-form students were praised for being 'positive role models for other pupils'.

### ANIMALS

## Dogs moved as shelter closes

A TROUBLED dog shelter has shut down after volunteers removed more than 20 animals claiming they were 'at risk'.

Rosedene Rescue Centre in Rushall has closed temporarily but bosses say the facility at Radley Road is being revamped and new management will be put in place.

Last week volunteers left the centre having transferred 21 dogs to a support group. They have criticised conditions at Rosedene and have called for the centre to be closed permanently by authorities. They have launched a petition on 38 degrees which has been backed by more than 300 people so far.

A statement on behalf of the former helpers said: "The conditions of the Rosedene Rescue Centre kennels and areas where volunteers and visitors could go, has been deteriorating over many years. A group of Rosedene Rescue Centre volunteers, working with other dog rescues, organisations and individuals moved all the remaining dogs to safe places."

In response, a Rosedene spokesman said: "The place is being revamped and a new management team is being put in place. Once the revamp has taken place Rosedene will be relaunched."

The owner of Rosedene, Desmond Goodall, said: "I'm committed to Rosedene and to make sure the centre is run professionally and the dogs are well looked after. This is why I'm pleased that it's now under new management."

### FOOTBALL

## Fans stage protest at Saddlers match

WALSALL FC fans have vowed to protest outside the Banks' during every home match 'until something changes'.

Discontented supporters, critical of the running of the club, launched their first demonstration on Saturday during the Saddlers' 2-1 win over visitors Oxford. On the 80th minute season ticket holders left the stands and formed en-masse in the car park. The 150-strong crowd chanted for owner Jeff Bonser to leave the club.

● Walk-out – Page 3

### INSIDE

## NEW TOY STORY ON AT LIBRARY



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# Purple days remembered by Glenn



Festival - Glen Hughes

TOP rocker Glenn Hughes has been named as a headline act for a summer festival in July.

The former Deep Purple ace, from Cannock, will be top of the bill on the Saturday night at the eighth Steelhouse Festival which runs from July 27-29.

Vocalist and bassist Glenn will be performing 'Classic Deep Purple - Live'. Hughes was part of the MK III and MK IV line-ups of the band who released the albums Burn, Stormbringer and Come Taste the Band.

He said: "I'm incredibly excited to

get out there and play tracks like Burn, Mistreated, Stormbringer and Getting Tighter, as well as some of those older songs that helped define the genre. With this band, I can assure you of a concert that'll blow your mind."

Festival organisers say it will be the first time that fans in the UK will have an opportunity to see 'The Voice of Rock' perform an entire set of Purple classics.

The festival takes place on the edge of Brecon Beacons at Ebbw Vale.

Promoters Mikey Evans and Max

Rhead said, "When we were growing up in Ebbw Vale, our local video rental outlet had a copy of Deep Purple's filmed appearance at Cal-Jam, 1974, a live concert so legendary and so exotic that it may as well have taken place on Mars."

"We marvelled at the sheer scale, the virtuosity, the riffs, the vocals and a certain white suit. It was worn of course by one Glenn Hughes."

Also lined up are Black Star Riders, The Wildhearts, Dan Reed Network and The Quireboys. For more details visit [www.steelhousefestival.com](http://www.steelhousefestival.com)

# Man, 19, stabbed to death at house party

**A MURDER probe has been launched after a 19-year-old was stabbed to death at a house party.**

West Midlands Police officers were called to an address in Chuckery, Walsall, at 1.46am on Sunday following reports of disorder.

The force said the man was found injured and emergency services tried to save him at the scene but they were unsuccessful. The victim is yet to be formally named by police. Officers remained at the Willows Road property and forensic investigators were spotted entering the home.

Police tape was placed around the house while a large cordon was set up restricting access to Willows Road between the junctions with Chuckery Road and Princes Avenue.

Det Insp Ian Wilkins, from the West Midlands Police homicide team, said: "Investigations are at an early stage, but there appears to have been a party at an address in Willows Road, which resulted in a disorder and a young man tragically losing his life."

"I would urge the person or persons responsible for the stabbing to come forward and hand themselves in. The police will find out who is responsible and I would ask them to search their conscience."

Residents in the area reacted with shock to the news. One woman, who did not want to be named, said: "I heard a bit of noise and looked out of my window to see emergency services were all around the home."

"You just think 'what has happened?' It is a bit unnerving to find out someone has been killed on your doorstep, especially a young lad. It's a real shame."

Lorasib Khan, of Willows Road, said: "It is very unusual for this area and very rare anything like that happens here."

"Everybody keeps themselves to themselves, you hardly see anybody outside."

Anyone with information or who was at the party should call 101 or Crimestoppers anonymously on 0800 555111.

## Families' delight as toy library opens



Manor Farm chief executive Gary Bird with Becky Lloyd and her daughter Scarlett

A CHARITY has opened a toy loan library in Walsall.

The Toy Box has been set up by Manor Farm Community Association and offers a wide range of toys to help improve youngsters' skills. It operates from the Pelsall Activity Centre in Church Road.

The Toy Box is completely run by volunteers who are skilled early years practitioners.

Mother and childminder Becky Lloyd said: "Scarlett is having a smashing time trying all the toys before we borrow. Can you imagine how much some of these would cost in the shops? And, when she gets fed up of one thing we can return it and borrow some more."

The Toy Box is open for parents, grandparents, childminders and carers to meet up and enjoy

a drink, together with nurseries, preschool, playschemes, primary schools, kindergartens and toddler groups.

Manor Farm Chief Executive Gary Bird said: "We want children in Walsall to have the very best start in life they can."

The Toy Box opened on January 10 and will be open on Wednesdays and Thursdays.

# Collapsed Carillion's projects at standstill

WORK on two of the region's biggest building projects appeared to have ground to a halt just hours after news of Carillion's liquidation.

The Wolverhampton construction and services giant is one of the main contractors working on the £700 million Paradise redevelopment in Birmingham city centre, but work stopped on Monday morning as news broke of the collapse.

It is unclear who will now pick up the job of completing Carillion's work on the first phase of Paradise, including the completion of One Chamberlain Square and the surrounding infrastructure work.

Meanwhile in Smethwick a skeleton crew of workers was manning another major Carillion building project - the £350 million Midland Metropolitan Hospital. No construction work appeared to be going on with just 10 people seeming to carry out maintenance work across the site.

In a statement Toby Lewis, chief executive of Sandwell and West Birmingham Hospitals NHS Trust, said: "We are working closely with HM Treasury and The Hospital Company as alternative arrangements are put in place to ensure that the construction of the Midland Metropolitan Hospital is completed."

## Hacksaw returns for town hall date

THE first-ever winner of the WWE Royal Rumble wrestling contest is in Walsall tomorrow, Friday, ahead of the event's 30th anniversary later this month.

American wrestling superstar 'Hacksaw' Jim Duggan, aged 63, will be in action at Darlaston Town Hall.

He makes the trip across the pond to take top billing on a Pro Wrestling Live card staged by local promoter Matt Powell at the Victoria Road venue.

Eight days later, the 31st Royal Rumble will come and go at the Wells Fargo Centre in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, as the WWE's third longest running pay-per-view show. Duggan won the maiden Royal Rumble in January 1988. For more information, call 07404 279 880.

## Rambling on with Derbyshire views

THE Walsall Group of the Ramblers head to Osmoston, near Ashbourne for a 7.5 circular walk on Sunday, a moderate walk on part of The Bonnie Prince Charlie Way through pastures and farms.

Non-members are always welcome and can obtain more information from the walk leaders on 01922 614389 or 01922 685271

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# Half of staff fail to take all holiday allowance

ALMOST half of people in the West Midlands have left-over holiday allowance at the end of the year, new research has revealed.

British Airways, which carried out the survey, is now encouraging people not to become a nation of holiday commitment-phobes and ensure they are taking enough time away from the workplace.

One piece of advice is to make time to plan a holiday. It may come as no surprise that one of the main reasons for West Midlands residents not taking their full quota of annual leave was due to being busy at work, followed by just over a third saving them up for a holiday they did not take.

Thirty per cent of West Midlands residents were unable to get the time off work to enjoy a longer holiday and under a third have not been on a two-week holiday for more than two years, as it seems finding a work-life balance does not come easy. More than a third believe that two-week holidays are frowned on or discouraged at their workplace.

It seems even when we do manage to seek out some sunshine, 17 per cent of those from the West Midlands noted that on their return they felt as if they had not managed to properly switch-off.

More than half of holidaymakers spent a lot of their holiday thinking about work and wider commitments.

# Advice on making lifestyle changes

HEALTH leaders are encouraging people to make small changes to their diet and swap fatty foods for fruit and vegetables. They say maintaining a healthy lifestyle is a lot easier than people may think.

Dr Anand Rischie, chairman of NHS Walsall Clinical Commissioning Group, said: "Making small changes to your diet is the healthiest and most achievable way to lose weight.

"Avoiding foods such as fats, salts and sugars and then swapping them for something healthier such as fruit and vegetables can help reduce your calorie intake."

Dr Rischie said that by making small, individual changes residents could make a big overall difference to their diet.

# Wolves statue vow

A STATUE of Sir Jack Hayward will be unveiled before the end of the season, Wolves have said. It will show the former owner's joy at his beloved team's promotion to the Premier League in 2003.

# Awarded Jorja is Brits critics' choice



Jorja with her award

Walsall singer Jorja Smith is joining Black Country star Liam Payne in the line-up for the Brit Awards.

While the former One Direction singer from Bushbury in Wolverhampton has earned himself two Brit Award nominations, ex-Aldridge School pupil Jorja has already been named the critics' favourite.

Liam is up for best single and best artist video for his debut solo release Strip That Down. Having already collected seven Brits as part of boy band One Direction, Liam finds himself competing with former band-

mates Harry Styles and Zayn Malik in the best video category.

He and Jorja performed during The Brits Are Coming show which was screened on ITV on Saturday. Liam said: "It's been amazing."

He also heralded Ed Sheeran, who collected four nominations following the release of his record-breaking third album, Divide, and referenced the wider global success of British music.

"I mean last year was such a great year for music with Ed coming through and all

sorts of different things," he said. Jorja, aged 20, beat two other newcomers, Mabel and Stefflon Don, to the prize.

She Tweeted that she was still speechless on Sunday, and included a picture of her wearing a trendy black coat and holding the blocky red trophy which houses the Britannia statuette inside.

Jorja is known for her guest appearances on songs "Jorja Interlude" and "Get It Together" from Canadian rapper Drake's album More Life. The Brit Awards will be held on February 21 at the O2 in London.

# Saddlers fans protest after match walk-out

ABOUT 150 Walsall FC fans protested outside the Banks's Stadium during the home clash with Oxford in objection to how the club is being run.

Supporters piled out of the exits on the 80th minute on Saturday, despite the fact the contest was finely poised at 2-1 – a score which remained unchanged – to the Saddlers at the time, and pitched up outside the ground's main reception where they chanted "We want our Walsall back" and "We want Bonser out".

Protest organiser David Olly Beckett, aged 53, said the main issue was the fact Jeff Bonser owned the club and the ground as two separate entities.

Fans argue that the £440,000 the club pays a pension pot – of which Bonser is a beneficiary – to rent the stadium every year, would be better spent on the team.

The supporters have also criticised the commercialisation of the Banks's under the branding WFC The Venue, claiming it has been advertised as based in Birmingham, whilst questioning whether any of the income was used to improve the squad.

## Community

Mr Beckett said: "For us the way Jeff Bonser owns the club has always been simmering in the background.

"It is a football club, it has always been a football club for the community of the town of Walsall.

"Jeff Bonser has decided to rebrand it as Walsall The Venue, Birmingham which is a smack in the face to people in Walsall.

"Year on year we have become tired of the Walsall FC playing side being treated as an add-on to the commercial business.

"It is no longer run as a football club.

"Ultimately the aim is to reunite this club's ownership with its own ground and regain the true identity firstly as a football club, not a banqueting facility or a comedy gala venue.

"The fans are sick and tired of the football side having to beg for crumbs from Jeff Bonser's banqueting table."

The action also received the backing of Wal-



Fans gathered outside the Bank's stadium to chant their protests about the club and how it is being run



Saddlers supporters walk out in the 80th minute

sall Football Supporters Trust. However, board member Ian Astbury said: "It is time for the fans to make a stand.

"We have had enough of the club being treated as a corporate wedding venue, corporate events venue,



A fan shouts 'Bonser out' as he leaves the stadium

firstly this is a football club and it needs to be run as a football club, the football club not as a side issue."

The club held a fans focus meeting last week giving fans a chance to air their concerns, but they confirmed they did not want to respond to the protest.

## NEWS IN BRIEF

## Author Sathnam is guest curator

AWARD-WINNING writer Sathnam Sanghera has joined the Birmingham Literature Festival team.

The journalist and author will take on the role of guest curator for the October festivities.

Wolverhampton-born Sathnam, whose memoir The Boy With The Topknot was adapted for television, said he was looking forward to curating 'unique' events this year.

The 10-day Birmingham Literature Festival, which celebrated its 20th anniversary last year, will return from October 4.

A short spring edition of the festival is set to take place from April 27 to 29.

## Fan banned over Livermore abuse

WEST Ham have slapped an indefinite ban on the supporter who abused Albion star Jake Livermore at the London Stadium earlier this month.

Livermore climbed into the stands to confront a fan sitting alongside the away team's dug-out after being substituted in the second half of the Baggies' 2-1 loss on January 2.

Albion claimed Livermore was provoked by a remark related to the death of his infant son, Jake Junior, in 2014.

A West Ham statement read: "Inciting or abusive behaviour will not be tolerated at London Stadium."

## Stolen car fire is suspected arson

FIREFIGHTERS were called out to reports that a stolen car had caught fire in a suspected arson attack.

Police are investigating the incident on Goscote Lodge Crescent in Walsall.

The emergency services were called to the scene just after 8am yesterday.

West Midlands Police said the red Vauxhall Corsa was reportedly stolen from an address in Walsall at 6.30am. West Midlands Fire Service said it took a crew from Bloxwich Fire Station 30 minutes to extinguish the flames. They tweeted: "Busy start for Red Watch one minute on duty."

## Charity box stolen in burglary at club

THIEVES stole a charity box and damaged a fruit machine when they broke into a social club.

Essington Working Men's Club was targeted some time between Monday night and Tuesday morning, January 8 to 9.

Staffordshire Police stated it is thought the burglars got into the building round the back. Spokeswoman Teresa Nicholls, posted an appeal on the force's Smart Alert service.

It said: "Any information please call Staffordshire Police on 101."

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## COUNTY NEWS

### Hobson's Choice actors sought

AN amateur dramatic group is on the look out for actors for its next production. Wombourne Players also needs assistance with props for its production of the classic comedy Hobson's Choice by Harold Brighouse. The play is being staged in Wombourne Community Centre from May 16 to 19.

Director Richard Corser said: "We are short of three male actors for roles in the play - a foreman bootmaker ideally age range 40 to 60 and two younger actors."

Anyone interested in acting should e-mail [info@wombourneplayers.org.uk](mailto:info@wombourneplayers.org.uk) or they can 'like' the Facebook page and message the group directly.

### England stars back good cause

ENGLAND stars Daniel Sturridge and Rio Ferdinand backed a charity event in memory of a promising student who died in a crash on the M6.

More than £2,000 was raised at an event at Villa Park recently for the D.E.M.I Trust, set up by family members of Demi Nicholson, aged 21, who was killed on the M6 near Wednesbury last year.

Liverpool and England striker Daniel Sturridge, who is from Birmingham, sent a Liverpool shirt, while his family members attended. A champagne three-course meal for two was also donated by the restaurant of Rio Ferdinand, formerly of Man Utd.

### College launches training scheme

A NEW management training scheme for graduates has been launched by City of Wolverhampton College.

The in-house graduate programme is aimed at young people who want to work in the further education sector in a management, leadership or teaching role. Applications must be received by Monday, February 5.

For more information or to apply for the graduate scheme go to [www.wolvcoll.ac.uk/graduate-programme/](http://www.wolvcoll.ac.uk/graduate-programme/) or call 01902 836000.

### Drag queen TV star in one-woman show

A DRAG queen is set to bring her one-woman show to Birmingham. D.J. Pierce, better known by stage name Shangela, competed on season two of RuPaul's Drag Race but was sadly the first queen to be eliminated.

The star was brought back for season three to compete alongside the likes of Raja, Yara Sophia, Alexis Mateo and Manila Luzon. Shangela appears at the Glee Club on April 10.

# Venues to raise a glass for Burns Night



Burns Night pipers

A FUNDRAISING Burns Night supper is being held for Katharine House Hospice, in Stafford, next weekend.

The Friends of Katharine House is organising the event on Sunday, January 28, from 7.30pm at Chase Golf Club, Potl Pool.

Tickets for the three-course meal are £37.50. The Black Watch Association Pipe Band

and The Folkies will provide entertainment.

A tot of whisky or wine will be served on arrival. Recommended dress code is black tie/mess uniform. Kilts are welcome. For tickets call 07772 095349 or 07708 662652, or email [cfk2408@hotmail.com](mailto:cfk2408@hotmail.com) or [riwm2@hotmail.com](mailto:riwm2@hotmail.com)

Meanwhile, a popular Cannock venue is to host what it de-

scribes as 'the biggest Scottish party in the Midlands' to celebrate the birthday of national poet Robert Burns.

The Premier Suite, in High Green, is hosting several days of Scottish celebrations starting on Thursday, January 25, from 7pm with a whisky tasting night.

Free haggis, neeps and tatties will be served along with a selection of more than 50 whiskies

and live Scottish music. On Saturday, the annual Midlands Biggest Burns Night Scottish Party takes place.

On Sunday, celebrations continue with a Scottish themed family Sunday lunch, including roast and Scottish banquet. Dress code is smart casual or kilts and tartans. Price is £17.50, £5.95 or free for under-fives. For tickets call 01543 572092.

# Long-running theatre group's survival fight

By Charlotte Callear

**A LONG-RUNNING theatre group in Walsall could fold after being forced to shut its venue of 67 years over health and safety risks.**

The Grange Players are now appealing for help to raise £60,000 to carry out vital works that will allow them to reopen the Grange Playhouse in in Broadway North.

The building has been used by the group since 1951, and is in dire need of repairs that will cost thousands of pounds.

Bosses of the registered charity now expect the Grange Playhouse will be closed for at least six months until they have raised the money and have had to stop performing.

Temporary chairman, Pete Smith, aged 72, has been part of the group since 1967.

He said: "It is tragic because we did not see it coming and it happened so quickly."

"I've directed plays and been in 40 or 50 of them."

### Family

"It is a big part of my life as it is for many members."

"It is very much a family thing and some of the people who are part of it have have grown old together and we are still friends. It is the bulk of our social life. Any tradesman who is willing to give materials and time free of charge feel is welcome and it would be much appreciated."

A risk assessment of the building was done back in July and it revealed there were a lot of health and safety issues meaning they have not been able to do any productions since then.

It needs necessary maintenance including new fire doors, a safety curtain for the stage, rewiring, holes to be fixed along with other general building and maintenance works. The



Grange Players chairman, Pete Smith, outside the Grange Playhouse, which has been shut over health and safety fears

building belongs to Walsall Borough Council but the group leases it off the council.

There are more than 300 members with around 50 active, including actors, actresses, and backstage crew.

Secretary Louise Farmer said: "A lot of people are affected."

"It has not gone down well at all. A lot of the patrons got in touch to say they want to donate and it is nice

they are supporting us. It is really sad because for the elderly patrons, the theatre is their time to get out of the house."

The group is arranging fundraising events and the first will be a Burns Supper on January 25 but the venue and time is yet to be confirmed.

Tickets cost £10 which includes a buffet and poetry will be read out for the event that celebrates the Scottish

poet Robert Burns on his birthday.

The Grange Players formed over 65 years ago to encourage the local community to take part in drama and theatre through productions they regularly put on.

Anyone who wants to buy a ticket for the Burns Supper, make a donation or who can offer some help can find contact details at [www.grange-players.co.uk/](http://www.grange-players.co.uk/)

## Uninsured teen driver avoids jail over death

AN uninsured teenager who killed a pedestrian while driving his mother's car for the first time has been spared jail. The Motability scheme Mercedes A180 was doing 57 mph in a 30 limit, a judge heard.

Analysis of CCTV evidence by a forensic collision investigator concluded that scaffolder Jake Nelson - 18 at the time but now aged 19 - was accelerating before having to brake hard after Neil Perry started to cross New Street in Hill Top, West Bromwich at 11.30pm on February 5 last year, Wolverhampton Crown Court heard.

The inexperienced driver tried unsuccessfully to avoid the 39-year-old.

Mr Perry, who was his mother's legal carer, died at the scene from traumatic brain injuries. He also suffered five fractured ribs and multiple fractures to his legs and pelvis.

The victim was on his way home from meeting friends and had a blood-alcohol reading nearly three times the legal limit for drivers, said Mr Garcha, who added: "His level of intoxication may have affected his ability to assess the speed of the on-coming vehicle."

Nelson, who stopped at the scene and phoned for an ambulance, was filled with regret and remorse and has needed counselling, it was said. The defendant, who tested negative for alcohol and drugs, had been given permission to use the vehicle by his mother. She knew he was uninsured and has since been fined by magistrates for allowing this to happen.

Nelson, from Hales Road, Wednesbury and of previous good character, pleaded guilty to causing the death while driving carelessly without in-

## Young carers' help from building firm

A WALSALL group has been handed a cash donation by a regional house building company to help it provide support and outings for young carers.

Persimmon Homes West Midlands donated £1,000 to Walsall Young Carers through its Community Champions scheme. The builder chose the appeal to benefit from its monthly match-funded donation.

Young Carers, based in Darwall Street, offers support for children who have a sibling with disabilities or, in some cases, parents who need help with day-to-day tasks as they are struggling with an illness or disability.

Spokesman Andrew Hawes said: "We need £25,000 a year to run this programme and we cannot thank Persimmon Homes enough for their support."

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# £3m boost towards used truck sales centre

HARTSHORNE has pumped £3 million into opening a used truck sales centre in Walsall, creating new jobs.

Hartshorne Group is one of the largest private vehicle dealer groups in the West Midlands and the new site is targeted at the area's haulage businesses.

Hartshorne says there is "healthy demand" for used trucks in the haulage sector, underlining the area's strong credentials as a road transport hub.

Hartshorne Group is a subsidiary of the Hartshorne Crossroads Group, a privately-owned Volvo truck and bus dealer group with a turnover of around £200 million. The group employs 750 people and operates from 20 dealer locations across The Midlands, Yorkshire and Lincolnshire, including one in Kingswinford.

Ian Middleton, group sales director at Hartshorne Crossroads Group, said: "We're proud to have a great relationships with numerous businesses in and around Walsall. This investment in our new site here represents a huge vote of our confidence in the region. The new sales centre will enable us to further enhance the range choice that we offer to hauliers."

## Development to open in Rushall

WORK is well underway on a new housing development in the Rushall area of Walsall, with the first homes set to go on sale next month.

Cameron Homes is providing a selection of 26 family properties at the location of a former residential home in Lichfield Road.

Demolition work is complete on site and the initial properties at the new development, to be called Chestnut Rise, will go on the market on February 10, with a show home being launched in early summer.

Amanda Gayle, sales manager for family-owned company Cameron Homes, based in Chasetown, said that the firm has a long history of providing housing in this area around Walsall, with four successful sites completed here in recent years."

A sales cabin will market the first homes, which will be three-bedroom properties priced from £199,950.

## Oil painting call

ARTISTS of all abilities have been invited to oil painting sessions. They are held at Aldridge Community Centre every Thursday from 9.30am to 11.30am. It costs £20 for six sessions at any time and for further details, call 07944 984407.

# Six-storey ex-police HQ faces bulldozer



The building which has stood for decades

THE former Walsall police station is to be demolished under plans submitted by its new owners.

Less than two months after Corbally Property Investments acquired the six-storey building on Green Lane, the firm has now lodged an application to tear it down – paving the way for redevelopment of the site.

Officers were moved out in October 2016 after the station had served as the town's police hub for 50 years. Corbally bought it in November for less than the £1m valuation touting it for a 'mixed use' development.

The station now looks set to disappear from the town after the plans were lodged with Walsall Council.

A retail development has been mooted for the site but Walsall councillor Doug James believes the public should be allowed to have a say in what happens.

He said: "The building has been a landmark on the ring road for many years but the thing I'm more concerned about with is the money being generated from the sale of the police station going into frontline services.

"The past is the past and what we

should be looking at is a community consultation on what happens with that part of the town. It shouldn't just be down to the developers with the big money."

Councillor James said he was uncertain whether major firms could be attracted to a new shopping development. He added: "We have got a BHS shop in Walsall that still hasn't been filled and that's a crying shame. It boils down to who is going to invest in that part of the town."

Bloxwich police station is now the borough's force headquarters.

# Fury over railway sleeper depot plan linked to HS2

**MORE than 1,000 people have objected to plans for a railway sleeper factory next to the M6 – which has been earmarked for the Black Country because of HS2.**

There were angry scenes as dozens of residents packed into a consultation event held by Network Rail as they unveiled early designs for the compound which they want to construct at the Bescot railway sidings, in Friar Park.

Concerns were expressed about the potential environmental impact on people's health, noise and traffic the facility could generate.

It would produce 600,000 concrete sleepers a year with the first rolling off the line as early as August 2019. RAIL.ONE, who will operate the site, stated the factory would replace the one in Washwood Heath, Birmingham, which is to be demolished to make way for the controversial HS2 line.

Residents raised several concerns over the scheme itself and also criticised Network Rail for a lack of transparency claiming many of them had only heard about the meeting via word of mouth.

Sandwell Councillor Simon Hackett, who represents Friar Park, stood on a chair to rally the vocal gathering at the Millennium Centre last Wednesday. He told Network Rail officers: "Go back to your bosses and tell them we don't want this, go somewhere else it is not wanted around here."

He later said: "Network Rail were not prepared for this tonight. They have set up a few tables in a community centre and thought only a few people would come.

"But hundreds of people have turned up. They need to go

By Carl Jackson

away and think again and not even bother putting a planning application in. There are hundreds and hundreds of people against this. It is bad for health, bad for noise and for traffic."

He also said West Bromwich East MP Tom Watson had declared his support for residents.

Hundreds of people have backed a paper petition against the factory, and more than 700 had endorsed a separate campaign online.

Sarah Tranter, who set up the latter petition, said: "We don't want this on our doorstep, it's absolutely huge. Leave us alone we have had enough."

But RAIL.ONE moved to quell people's fears although they were unable to provide any details about how many extra vehicles there would be a day. A spokesman at the exhibition said: "The whole idea of this was to give people information to form a judgement on what is being proposed. There have been concerns about dust, but the impact on the environment will be very, very negligible and it is not a noisy process.

"It is too early to tell how many HGV vehicle movements there will be, that will come forward with the planning application."

## Terror attacks memorial plan



How the memorial could look in Cannon Hill Park if work is given the go-ahead

ARTIST'S impressions have been unveiled for a new memorial in Birmingham to honour our victims of the Tunisia terror attacks.

The £750,000 project, planned for Cannon Hill Park, will honour victims of the attacks in Sousse and Bardo including budding football referee Joel Richards, aged 19, from Wednesbury, his uncle Adrian Evans and grandfather Pat Evans.

The three, who were all Saddlers fans, were murdered by gunman Seifeddine Rezgui as they holidayed in Sousse. Joel's younger brother Owen survived the attack in 2015. The spot for the new memorial has been chosen as the most appropriate for all the victims' families. The centrepiece of the

new memorial is a sculpture titled 'Infinite Wave' which is said to recreate a "single wave formed from 31 individual streams", each one representing the British nationals who lost their lives.

The firm has said the purpose of the memorial was to offer "a place of remembrance, commemoration and reflection for all those affected" by the attack.

In March 2015 three militants attacked the Bardo National Museum, in the Tunisian capital Tunis, and killed 22 people including West Midlands solicitor Sally Adey.

Three months later, a lone gunman killed 38 holidaymakers – 30 of who were British – at El Kantaoui resort, outside Sousse.

## NEWS IN BRIEF

## Health leaders in food advice

HEALTH leaders in the Black Country are reminding people that maintaining a healthy lifestyle is a lot easier than they may think.

Dr Anand Rischie, chairman of NHS Walsall Clinical Commissioning Group, said: "For starters, making small changes to your diet is the healthiest and most achievable way to lose weight."

He continued: "Examples include switching white breads, bagels and muffins for wholegrain varieties. You can also change creamy or cheesy sauces to tomato or vegetable-based sauces on your pasta, meat or fish dishes and swap a cola or fizzy drink with 100 per cent fruit juice, with no added sugar, mixed with soda water."

## Car key raids on rise in Streetly

STREETLY has seen an increase in burglaries with culprits on the hunt for car keys, police have warned.

Residents in the area have been advised to improve their security measures for their vehicles.

PCSO Tracy Ash said: "There has been an increase in burglaries in the Streetly area.

"Please if you go out and come back after it gets dark make sure you use timers for your lights or leave a light on, to make it look like someone is at home. If you own a high performance car think about purchasing a steering lock as extra security."

## Police group in boost for project

A COMMUNITY project has received hundreds of pounds in funding from an independent police organisation.

Police Mutual gave a £300 grant to Community Coffee Morning, based in Walsall, which brings people together with aims to reduce loneliness.

Police officer Gary Hall said the initiative was 'important in bringing people together and helping to combat loneliness'.

The money was delivered through Force for Good, which is Police Mutual's national community sponsorship programme.

## Scheme is just the job for graduates

GRADUATES are set to benefit from new training scheme. The new two-year management training scheme has been launched by City of Wolverhampton College.

The full-time scheme offers management training in information systems, IT or estates management. Graduates with at least a 2:1 degree in a related subject must apply by February 5.

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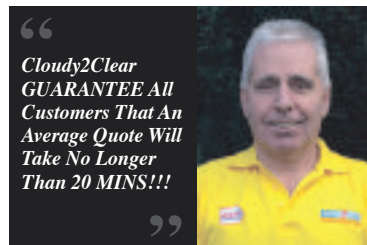
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## IN MY VIEW

with Mark Andrews



# Can I help you? Yes I'm being robbed . . .

FOR those of you who thought the thin blue line had been getting a little too thin for comfort lately, here's something to gladden the heart.

Police in Lancashire say that by the end of the year people could soon have their own virtual bobby in the home.

The gadgets will not only make regular announcements about crime-fighting operations – which I am sure will never become irritating – they will also allow people to report crimes via voice-activated technology. Which means they can employ fewer call-handlers. Yippee.

Have the brains behind this ever used a voice-activated service? My credit card provider has just switched to one for bill payments, and let's say the results have been mixed. A call that previously took a couple of minutes "press two to pay your bill, enter your debit card number" ended up taking a quarter of an hour and four separate calls, probably in part because I don't speak hologram fluently.

Can you imagine how this might work in an emergency?

"Help, I'm being robbed!"  
"Hello Rob, how may I help you?"  
"A robber has a knife to my throat!"  
"Yes, Rob, your wife is allowed to vote. Say 'yes' if you would like another service, if not, say 'I am done'."

At this rate, we're all well and truly done.

□□□

ALSO facing a shortage of personnel is the British Army, which has also reverted to, shall we say, unconventional means, to fill the gap.

It's strange, because it only seems like a couple of years ago that the Army was making thousands of experienced, battle-hardened soldiers redundant, closing down the Staffordshire Regiment.

Anyway, the corporate whizzkids have decided that the old "Be the Best" recruitment slogan was outdated and elitist. Can't discriminate against people who don't want to be the best, can we?

As a replacement, the Army has come up with some soppy online videos that look a bit like the opening credits for the Generation Game during Bruce's second stint, circa 1990. They encourage would-be recruits to talk about their feelings, and say it's all right to cry if you're upset.

Brilliant. So next time the Argentinians, Putin, Isis, or whoever our enemies are these days decide they want another war, and deploy a load of hard nuts to blow our heads off, we retaliate with a group of people in touch with their emotional side.

They'll probably use It Ain't Half Hot Mum as a training video.

## Gear up and sort out these tyre-bursting roads



Theresa May – the recent reshuffle was underwhelming but made a point



Tony Blair – a number of words sprang to mind, 'clever' was never one of them



Keir Starmer – looking anxious following announcement of rapist release?

# Drivers in a hole as planning falls short

I CANNOT recall such a vicious crop of tyre-bursting, wheel-bending, suspension-cracking potholes on our roads as we have now. It must have something to do with hard frosts followed by heavy rain, plus the fact that no-one in authority ever seems to expect such weather in a British winter, let alone plan for it.

OUR changing language. Yes, I know it's a real word but I'd never heard it before. The God-botherer on Thought for the Day (Radio 4) referred to the faith of those who believe the end of the world is nigh. It is called Apocalypticism. Now, there's a real denture tester.

A READER who believes Brexit will never happen writes: "Brexit is merely a bar-room drunk's xenophobic fantasy . . . Remainers will prevail because we have common sense, truth, peace, patriotism and the social good as our arguments." And humility. Don't forget the humility.

THE anti-Brexit movement, led by Lord Adonis, Gina Miller, Tony Blair and the others, is based on the unspoken, but heavily implied, belief that these people are much cleverer than the rest of us. I cannot speak for them all but I have interviewed Tony Blair several times. Although a number of words sprang to mind, "clever" was never one of them.

BY the end of this year, smacking children will probably be illegal in Wales and Scotland. This offers some interesting business opportunities on England's western and northern borders. I

## THE BEST OF PETER RHODES



foresee a string of cosy little franchises (Slippers-R-Us?) where Scots and Welsh parents can bring their errant offspring for a taste of traditional discipline and regale them with stories of how "we all got it in the old days and it never did me any harm."

MORE to the point, when slapping is banned across the UK, as it surely will be, what happens next? The approved alternatives to smacking, as preached by the great and good, are confining a child to its bedroom or confiscating its favourite toy. Or to put it another way, imprisonment without trial, and theft. One for the human-rights lawyers.

AFTER my recent item on prostate examinations, a reader tells me of a GP who uses two fingers, in case he needs a second opinion.

A COMEDIAN in the 1980s announced details of Margaret Thatcher's latest cabinet reshuffle. Apparently, Thatcher had moved the blue Wedgwood pot behind the little china dog. The recent reshuffle by Theresa May was just as underwhelming and didn't even have a punchline. But it did make the point, as May sacked middle-aged ministers for being "male, pale and stale," as the BBC put it, that it is perfectly pos-

sible in these enlightened times to be sacked for being the wrong gender, colour or age.

SOME of the victims of the black-cab rapist John Worboys are demanding that when he is freed from prison he should be excluded from London. And if the worst happened and Worboys struck again in the provinces, who would explain to the victims in Wales, Whitby or Wolverhampton that a rapist was unleashed in their midst to make London safer?

WHY was the normally cool Labour front-bencher Keir Starmer so agitated and anxious in his interview following the announcement that Worboys was due for release? Starmer's only involvement with the case is that at the time, nine years ago, he was Director of Public Prosecutions when it was decided to charge Worboys with only a dozen offences. His lawyers probably took the view that adding many more similar cases to the charge sheet would not result in a longer prison sentence. So it was a pragmatic, logical decision. The snag for Starmer is that in the intervening nine years sex offences against women have become centre-stage. Logic is not what it was. We now have a febrile culture in which a single ill-judged email or a wandering male hand 10 years ago is enough to end a political career. Starmer knows that he will survive the current scandal, so long as nothing more happens. But what if Worboys is released and offends again? In the present climate, illogical and unfair though it may seem, Keir Starmer could find his head on the block. No wonder he looked worried.

## TALKING POINT



# Weathering storm of American influence

POLITICIANS love to tell us that Britain has a special relationship with the United States – and it seems that includes the weather.

Avid watchers of weather forecasts will be well aware that storms these days are given human names, apparently to raise awareness so that people can take urgent action and batten down the hatches as severe winds and rain approach.

The Met Office, in conjunction with Ireland's Met Éireann, announced the storm names for the 2017-18 season in September, and already we've had Aileen, Brian, Caroline, Dylan and Eleanor.

In anticipation of a particularly bad season, a number of names have been chosen in alphabetical order. So far, so good, but a graphic on the Met Office website illustrates some glaring omissions in the naming process – which is where the American influence comes in.

Instead of using all 26 letters of the alphabet, Q, U, X, Y and Z have not been allocated a name. At first glance, it's easy to assume the Met Office had difficulty in choosing names for those five letters.

However, the actual reason they are not included is – and I quote the Met Office's small print – "this ensures we are in line with the US National Hurricane Centre naming convention and will maintain consistency for official storm naming in the North Atlantic".

So there we are. Our storm-naming system is at the mercy of American weather experts.

Maybe a campaign could be started to have those five lonely letters included after all. In true British spirit, the Talking Point team set about thinking up how to fill the gaps.

We came up with Quentin, Una, Xavier, Yul and Zach, and we'd like to think they are more sensible than some of the suggestions submitted to the Met Office.

How seriously could you take the news that Storm Gnasher was on the way? Or how about Baldrick, NastyBoy, Skylab, Stomp, Swoosh or Twizzle? Not surprisingly, the names of retailers such as B&Q and Asda were also excluded.

Looking back, the 2016-17 season saw five storms named, from Angus to Ewan. In the previous season, 11 were named, from Abigail to Katie.

Obviously, no-one can tell how many names will be needed this season – as few as possible, if we are lucky.

So despite the Americans taking over in this instance, perhaps we should be hoping that we don't get as far as those missing letters.

STEVE PARLETT

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# Nunn-plussed about much missed golden era

SORRY, Mr Nunn that you do not feel that although born in the 1940s, as was I, you never experienced what I consider to be a golden era. This had nothing to do with wealth or money as most people had none, but the things they did have surpassed that, ie, respect, decency, community spirit, pride, jobs for all, justice, freedom to play and go about our business without fear.

Today we have very little of the above. You say we should be adaptable to change, if change includes youngsters committing suicide, terror on our streets, innocent people being killed

and maimed, then this is not in my opinion, change for the better.

As far as the EU is concerned, Greece has been brought to its knees. Now the EU has shown its true colours and would like to do the same to Great Britain. They can threaten, bully, intimidate and demand extortionate amounts of money from us, but we should not give in to these bullies.

People are entitled to their opinions, but it is when the opinions of the people who voted to leave are rubbished by the remaners it becomes an issue. I would guess that many people are

angry and hold in contempt the people of their country who continually go on and on putting the EU before their own country and the people therein, and are heartily fed up with their attitude.

Many of these seem to ignore the fact that the British taxpayer pays their salaries, just because they disagreed with the result and are arrogant enough to think they know better. As for Germany, the less said about them the better.

MRS C A HARRIS  
Willenhall

## Calling time on Bell End name row

WHATEVER is the matter with the residents of Bell End, Rowley Regis, who want their street name changed?

I cannot for the life of me understand why anyone would find 'rudeness' or any other kind of hilarity in this street name.

My house overlooks houses in Bell Street, Bellman Close etc, while in the very near vicinity we have Dale End. What's the problem?

I suggest people grow up and find more things to do with their infantile minds than making fun out of nothing.

The council should stick to its guns and ignore such pettiness.

ELIZABETH SHAW  
Darlaston

Letters should be as brief as possible, and MUST include name, address and telephone number. The Editor reserves the right to condense letters.

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

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story, write to The Editor, Chronicles, 51-53 Queen Street, Wolverhampton, WV1 1ES

## More to it than that, in the post

I HAVE read the letter from Mrs J Richardson (Walsall Chronicle, Monday, January 1) and I was left feeling really annoyed.

I always say you don't know what is involved in a job unless you have done it!

Does she think the posties just deliver letters? What about heavy lifting in the sorting office and correctly putting everything in the correct place.

Also, there are many more parcels now.

Most people smile for a photograph. Just think about it - a letter delivered anywhere in the country for about the price of a chocolate bar. Carry on delivering your own letters - see how you get on.

MRS A WALTON  
Walsall

## No need for merge plan of surgeries

A SCHEME has been proposed to merge a number of surgeries in Walsall and resite them in a new building near to the Arboretum junction.

This over-centralisation will mean that patients attending the Limes Surgery and the one at Sycamore House will have much further to travel and will find inadequate parking when they get there.

For those who depend on public transport, particularly the elderly, it will make access to what will be a less patient-friendly venue much more difficult. I do not believe that the premises at the existing surgeries and the Lichfield Street surgery which is also involved are so inadequate that this plan should be implemented.

The cost of the proposed new building will be enormous and to waste money on such an idea when the NHS is desperately short of cash seems quite senseless.

JOHN LESTER  
Walsall

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## Memorial is blocked over noise potential

**PLANNING committee members have blocked a scheme for a war memorial in Aldridge, arguing the site was too noisy.**

The Rotary Club submitted an application to install a 40 ft wide 'human sundial' at the edge of The Croft play area off Little Aston Road.

The proposal featured a half crest displaying clock numbers, a six ft tall peace post printed with words of remembrance, Rotary inscribed granite tablets and poppy displays.

By Carl Jackson

### Concerns

But Walsall Council's planning committee refused the application, against the recommendations of its own officers, due to concerns the location was close to the children's recreational area. They did, however, express a desire to see the memorial installed elsewhere in the town.

Deputy chairman Councillor Angela Underhill said: "There were concerns from residents and some councillors that it was right by a children's play area and it was the wrong place for it. "Something in remem-

brance to people you want in a peaceful place and right next to a large playing area is not ideal.

"What we have suggested is that they look at somewhere else in Aldridge to do it. We didn't like refusing it really but it should get the respect it deserves."

The plan was inspired by the Analematic Human Sundial, located at the National Memorial Arboretum.

The Rotary Club stated it had worked with various council departments to develop the proposal. It also argued it would help with the Heart of England in Bloom and England in Bloom bids.

The Rotary Club was unavailable for comment.

Champion swimmer  
Ellie in degree honour



Paralympian Ellie Simmonds receives an honorary degree from Swansea University (Ben Birchall/PA)

WALSALL'S swimming sensation, Ellie Simmonds, has been awarded an honorary degree.

The five-time Paralympic champion received the award by Swansea University at the degree ceremony for the College of Human and Health Sciences.

The 23-year-old grew up in Aldridge until she lived and trained in the South Wales city as a teenager.

Presenting the award, senior pro-vice-chancellor Professor Hilary Lappin-Scott said Simmonds had captured "both the hearts and minds of the British public". "We are very proud that Ellie has used the university's sports village, home to the Wales National Pool Swansea, as the base for her training, where the university hosted the International Paralympic Championships in 2014," she said.

The Paralympic swimmer won two medals in Beijing when she was just 13 in 2008, followed by two golds in London in 2012 and her latest in 2016 at the Rio Paralympics.

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# Resident's fury after fencing panels stolen

A WOMAN has been left furious after revellers stole her decorative fence panels in the early hours of New Year's Day.

Gretta Jukes was astonished to see the gaping hole at the end of her garden at her home in Great Wyrley as she welcomed in 2018.

The 71-year-old mother-of-three and grandmother-of-five, was even more surprised when a neighbour told her that someone had earlier been witnessed walking down the street with a fence panel under his arm.

Mrs Jukes, who is a widow and lives alone, said it will cost her around £100 to replace the panels but she was more angry at the sheer fact someone would target her fence.

"I just could not believe my eyes when I got up. Then my neighbour told me someone was coming home from a party and saw someone with a fence panel under their arm. It is almost funny when you think about it. "They are the lowest of the low, who would do that? If they pinched that they will pinch anything."

Two panels were removed, one of which was left broken nearby, and the other thought to have been stolen.

Mrs Jukes does not hold out any hope of retrieving it however she was keen for the theft to be publicised stating many of her neighbours had similar panels and decorative items and should be on their guard.

She added: "I have taken pride in my home it's beautiful. For someone to take the fence panels you just think 'what cheeky devils'. But a lot of houses have got those sort of things in this area so people should be aware that someone is going around pinching them."



Gretta Jukes outside her home where the fencing panels were stolen

## Roles available at resort

DRAYTON Manor Park has launched its recruitment drive for the 2018 season.

Applications have opened for seasonal roles and, to launch the drive, the attraction is hosting its annual 'Working for Drayton' event in Thomas Land on January 27, between 10.30am and 12.30pm.

Potential candidates can ask questions, find out more about positions

and talk to current and previous members of staff about what it is like to work there.

The 2018 season starts when the park reopens on March 28. Vacancies are available in retail, catering, ticketing or the Thomas Land attraction, which celebrates its 10th birthday this year. Anyone unable to attend can still apply by emailing recruitment@draytonmanor.co.uk

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## Chiefs hope to conserve buildings for town

**PLANS have been unveiled to 'protect and enhance' a Black Country town's historic market place.**

Council bosses in Sandwell are working with Historic England on the proposals to help conserve Market Place in Wednesbury. Sandwell Council said the Market Place 'is known for its great character and many fine buildings.'

The council is keen to conserve the town's built heritage and has been working on a number of schemes to protect and enhance Wednesbury, starting in its heart - the Market Place.

Planners have been working with Historic England to develop proposals to conserve Market Place to enhance the area and help boost the town's economic performance. Within the next few weeks, the council expects to receive confirmation of a start-up 'capacity building' grant from Historic England to kick-start the process.

Wednesbury is eligible because it is a conservation area that is recognised to be 'at risk' by Historic England. Councillor Pam

**By David Cosgrove**

Hughes, town lead for Wednesbury, said: "Local people will be pleased if we can make some improvements to and conserve the Market Place because it is at the centre of the town, and has been an important place for shoppers for many, many years."

"I hope we get the go-ahead as soon as possible." Cabinet member for regeneration, Councillor Paul Moore, said: "This is exciting news for the people of Wednesbury who are rightly proud of the heritage of their Market Place."

"The grant will pay for works aimed at identifying high, medium and lower priority buildings to be protected."

## Swap treats for healthy snacks call



**Nutritionist Clare Hedderman gets the message over to Year 3 pupils at Hydesville Tower School**

SCHOOLCHILDREN have been getting tips for healthier snacking. Clare Hedderman, nutritionist from the School's catering supplier, Chartwells Independent, visited Hydesville Tower School in Walsall to hold a series of workshops.

The visit gave her the opportunity to share the Department for Health's Change4Life public health programme which is urging parents and children to 'look for 100 calorie snacks, two a day max'. She said: "Pupils were shocked to see the amount of high sugar, saturated fat and salty snacks consumed by children over the year through the Change4Life short video."

"It sparked discussions around snacks they currently eat and healthier alternatives. To follow on from workshops delivered on hidden sugars and the Eatwell Guide, I laid out a 100 calorie portion of popular foods from each food group for pupils to see; this surprised many pupils and demonstrated the importance of balance in the diet."

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# Futuristic design M5 energy plant backing

**CONTROVERSIAL** plans to build an energy plant overlooking the M5 in West Bromwich have been recommended for approval.

It comes after hundreds of people objected to the scheme.

The 10,000sq m energy recovery facility will be built at Giffards Recycling, off Kelvin Way and convert 400,000 tons of waste into electricity to power 70,000 homes a year.

The application by Versus Oak Energy was lodged with Sandwell Council last year. And now planning officers have welcomed the scheme.

A petition demanding that the facility be blocked was signed by 450 people and handed to bosses at the local authority.

Councillor Bawa Dhallu, who represents the West Bromwich ward, said: "There were quite a few people who were upset when they heard about it."

## Situation

"But we need to know the full details of it first. We need access to the full details about the environment situation, how residents feel and what it will fully entail."

The energy facility would process and convert waste into high-pressure steam.

The steam would then be de-pressurised to produce electricity. Existing buildings on the site would have to be bulldozed.

A design statement submitted with the application said the site would operate 24/7 but that waste deliveries from lorries would be restricted to between 7am and 7pm on weekdays and 7pm and 1pm on Saturdays.

There would be no deliveries on Sundays, it added. A total of 168 vehicles would enter and leave the site every weekday, according to the plans.



The 'iconic' energy plant building situated next to the M5 motorway

Planning agent Kelvin said the facility would provide an 'iconic and positive addition to the local area' and the building would 'create a landmark structure for people travelling along the M5 motorway'.

A committee report submitted last week states that the 'depth of feeling expressed by residents is 'understood'. However, it continues: "Overall the proposal is welcomed as it will lead to a more sustainable use of waste materials that would otherwise go to landfill. The power generated from the facility can be used by sites and premises nearby."

The design statement added: "The energy recovery facility (ERF) will have the capacity to process up to 395,000 tons of waste of fuel per annum, with the potential to generate up to 35MW of electricity."

"The components of the ERF would largely be contained within one main building. A design brief was created in consultation with Sandwell Council, with the aim of creating a bold, visually pleasing building, particularly from views from the M5."



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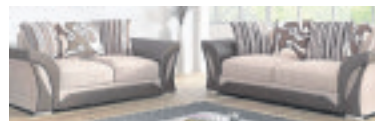
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# Trouble identifying bridge over waters

HERE'S an easy puzzle for readers to solve – where exactly is this bridge?

There is even an obvious clue as the company publicity describes it as: "Bridge over the River Severn at Buildwas."

It was the handiwork of E C & J Keay Ltd engineers and ironfounders at their James Bridge Works, in Darlaston.

The bridge spanned 135ft and 28ft in width, while the steelwork weighed in at 146 tons. So many readers will have no trouble in identifying it as the bridge over the River Severn to the original 1930s Ironbridge Power Station.

The only trouble with that is – it isn't.

The picture was brought in by Mrs Iris Norwood, of Doseley, Telford, who has been trying to solve the riddle on behalf of a colleague from the history group in Cheslyn Hay.

Mrs Norwood is from Hollybush, Cheslyn Hay, originally, and moved to Shropshire in 1971.

"I just know him as Ken, and he comes to the history group at Cheslyn Hay, of which I am a member," she said. "He lived in Darlaston and had this photograph and asked me if I knew where it was, saying I lived up that area now."

"So I went to the power station and asked the man on the gate if he knew where it is. He said 'It's probably the old bridge up the road'."

"My son took a photograph of it and it doesn't look like that at all. I don't think it looks like the same bridge. I would love to be able to find out."

However, with a bit of digging, we're pretty sure we can now solve the mystery.



A leaflet from E C & J Keay Ltd engineers and ironfounders about the bridge



Nothing like it – the 1930s power station bridge during construction.

The company literature is somewhat visually misleading, because it seems to have 'squeezed' the photograph to give a false perspective, making the bridge in question look smaller in span than it actually is, or rather was.

Because the bridge is no longer

there in its current form. It is the Buildwas bridge, built in 1905 and 1906 to replace a previous iron bridge built by Thomas Telford in the 1790s. That replacement was in turn replaced in 1992, incorporating the stone abutments from Telford's bridge.



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## Focusing on photo display for 40th



Sheila Chamberlain-Hyett and Edward Miller provide photography inspiration at the Black Country Living Museum GRAB a camera and get snappy as the Black Country Museum is set to stage a special photography exhibition later this year.

It comes as part of the attraction's 40th anniversary celebrations, and is inviting people to submit four new and archive photographs on the theme of Reclaiming Our Industrial Might.

The deadline for entries is February 23 and a selection of the images will be on display at the museum in Tipton Road for its Industrial Might weekend on May 19 and 20.

Submissions need to feature the Black Country's industrial heritage including forges, boilers, collieries and factories. Portraits, architectural shots and present day street photographs are also welcomed, but images taken at the museum cannot be included. Digital photographs can also be submitted. People whose photos are chosen will be contacted within eight weeks of the closing date.

To submit photographs go to [reclaimphotographyfestival.org](http://reclaimphotographyfestival.org)

## Discarded litter leads to jail rat infestation

HMP Featherstone suffered a rat and mice infestation after prisoners threw rubbish from their cell windows, a report has revealed.

The prison governor had to take action – planting poison and fitting meshes to lags' windows – to tackle the problem. The issue was raised by the Independent Monitoring Boards, which published its report following a visit.

By Alex Ross

Vice-chairman Keith Hollinshead called for 'urgent' refurbishment and repair to areas of the prison he described as 'unacceptable'.

And he claimed the rat and mice infestation had been caused by prisoners in four of the seven houses.

He said: "There is still an ongoing problem over the rubbish discarded from cell windows by prisoners on a number of house units."

"We do acknowledge that some steps have been taken to address this issue. Litter removal and vermin control must remain a top priority for the establishment."

Mr Hollinshead highlighted concerns over poor living conditions at the prison.

The IMB is yet to hear back from the MoJ following the publication of its report.

In the report, Mr Hollinshead said: "On the one hand, we have seen a marked improvement in the number of prison officers and this in turn has led to improvements in the relationships between prisoners and staff."

Mr Hollinshead said since the report was published, efforts had been made to fix the problem. A spokesman

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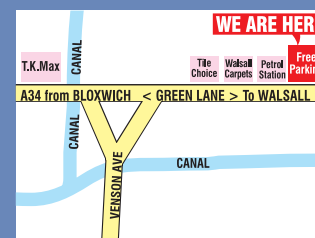
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## Memorial plan over terror attacks

ARTIST'S impressions have been unveiled for a new memorial in Birmingham to honour victims of the Tunisia terror attacks.

The £750,000 project, planned for Cannon Hill Park, will honour victims of the attacks in Sousse and Bardo including budding football referee Joel Richards, aged 19, from Wednesbury, his uncle Adrian Evans and grandfather Pat Evans.

The three, who were all Saddlers fans, were murdered by gunman Seifeddine Rezgui as they holidayed in Sousse. Joel's younger brother Owen survived the attack in 2015.

The spot for the new memorial has been chosen as the most appropriate for all the victims' families.

The centrepiece of the new memorial is a sculpture titled 'Infinite Wave' which is said to recreate a "single wave formed from 31 individual streams", each one representing the British nationals who lost their lives. The firm has said the purpose of the memorial was to offer "a place of remembrance, commemoration and reflection for all those affected" by the attack.



How the memorial could look in Cannon Hill Park if work is given the go-ahead

## Street lays out plans to tax old diesels off the road

**METRO Mayor Andy Street has revised the idea of a West Midlands congestion charge to combat pollution from older 'dirty' diesel vehicles**

He was speaking as latest auto industry figures revealed a slump in demand for diesel cars last year.

The idea of a London-style congestion charge has been proposed several times for Birmingham and the surrounding area, including the Black Country, but has previously proved

highly unpopular with the public. Andy Street flagged up the rapid growth in demand for electric vehicles and said the whole industry could be seen moving towards offering more electric and hybrid options: "My own prediction is that this will grow very rapidly." And he said he was determined that the West Midlands would be the centre for this new industry.

In the meantime Mr Street said the region was drawing up plans under the Government's 'clean air' strategy to tax heavily polluting older diesel ve-

hicles, including commercial vehicles, off the roads of the region's towns and cities.

He said removing all diesel cars from the streets was "too simplistic", adding: "New modern diesels are relatively clean. Huge progress has been made in improving diesel combustion engines."

"What we do need to think about is how are we going to move the most polluting old diesels off our streets because the really damaging issue is the nitrogen oxide pollutants."



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# Geoff: I owe my life to university medics

**EX-ENGLAND** and Wolves footballer Geoff Thomas has paid tribute to life-saving medics as he collected an honorary doctorate from Birmingham City University.

The ex-footballer, leukaemia survivor and charity fundraiser told students and academics that he wouldn't have been here without the work of Birmingham's Professor Charlie Craddock and his team.

The presentation was made during a ceremony held at Birmingham's Symphony Hall, alongside students graduating from the University's Faculty of Health, Education and Life Sciences.

## Wonderful

Geoff was selected to receive the award in recognition of the millions of pounds he has helped raise for blood cancer charities since recovering from the disease himself – despite being told he had just three months to live in 2003.

Speaking at the ceremony Geoff said: "I wouldn't be here if it wasn't for a certain Professor Charlie Craddock and his wonderful team. He guided me through a year of treatment, radiotherapy, chemotherapy and through the arduous stem cell transplant which saved my life."

He added: "This new funding is delivering new hope to patients being diagnosed today. Birmingham is a hub and Charlie Craddock and his team are a leading light in this fight. I was very fortunate because of where I lived, that I got the best care."

"I've come back to Cure Leukaemia and we've raised £1.5 million this year to help extend the Haematology Cen-



Geoff Thomas, with Sir Lenny Henry and Professors Graham Henderson and Phillip Plowden of Birmingham City University

tre to make it a state-of-the-art facility. It actually opens today and I'm so proud of that." Over a 20-year professional career, Geoff played for football clubs including Crystal Palace, Nottingham Forest and Wolves, as well as picking up nine caps for England.

After retiring from the game in 2002 he was diagnosed with a form of leukaemia and given just three months to live, but following a stem cell transplant from his sister and treatment by Birmingham's Professor Charlie Craddock he entered remission two years later. Geoff has dedicated his life to raising funds for blood cancer patients since recovering from leukaemia, starting the Geoff Thomas Foundation, which raises funds to fight

cancer, and regularly taking part in activities for Cure Leukaemia.

He has had a long association with the West Midlands having arrived in the region in 1993 to pull on the old gold of Wolves where he spent four seasons.

He has also been a supporter of ex-Aston Villa captain Stiliyan Petrov who retired from the game after being diagnosed with leukaemia in 2013, and Wolves goalkeeper Carl Ikeme, who is currently undergoing treatment for leukaemia. Closing his speech Geoff said: "Finally, all I'd say to you graduates from what I've learned through the world of sport and what I've been through, if you believe and you have the passion just go for it."

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# Man is jailed for vicious attack on ex-girlfriend

**A FATHER has been sentenced to nine years in prison after viciously attacking his 'vulnerable' ex-girlfriend.**

Michael Arrowsmith, of Cope Street in Walsall, carried out two assaults on her last July leaving her in hospital with multiple face and body injuries, including a fractured jaw, Wolverhampton Crown Court was told.

She said she had experienced serious anxiety since and had not been able to leave the house alone. The court heard how, during one of the beatings, 47-year-old Arrowsmith smashed his victim's head against a door frame, stamped, kicked and throttled her. Her injuries were so severe, she needed an operation on her jaw to have two metal plates put in.

In a statement read out to the court, she said: "Since the attack I've been a different person. I used to be very social but I've only gone out a handful of times, and I always take someone with me. I'm self conscious about my appearance and have no confidence anymore. I cannot sleep without having flashbacks."

It was said Arrowsmith had a cocaine habit, which he had since conquered while being in custody, and that his former partner had a history of mental health problems. Arrowsmith's solicitor described his client's behaviour as inexplicable. He said Arrowsmith was keen to turn his life around.

Sentencing Arrowsmith, Recorder Edward Coke said: "You knew full well that your victim was vulnerable. She was drunk and she had mental health problems."

Arrowsmith was sentenced to nine years in prison, half of which he will serve before being released on licence. A restraining order will also be in place so he cannot go near his victim. Arrowsmith denied two GBH charges but was convicted of just one - wounding with intent.

## Cash drive for museum



Lowell Williams, Chairman of the Black Country Living Museum and Alex Patrick CBE, polish the 1939 Alvis Speed 25 classic car

FIVE vintage cars alongside a donation of half a million pounds has been given to the Black Country Museum to boost its Forging Ahead project.

Philanthropist, Alexander Patrick CBE, of the Patrick Foundation, visited the Tipton Road attraction with Dudley College principal Lowell Williams for a handover ceremony.

An annual donation of £30,000 for the next 10 years will also be given to museum bosses to help with maintenance of the collection.

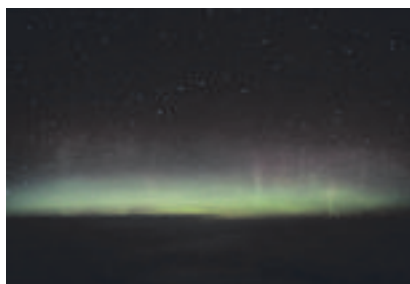
Mr Patrick said: "Many years ago I was a trustee of the development trust here and we had been looking at ways that we could associate with the museum."

"Then the opportunity came for us to get involved with the new 1940s-1960s development. The cars are all family cars and my father used to drive the Daimler SP250 and the little Austin we put the body on back in the 1930s, so they're special."

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## Tory 'Toff' meets Walsall MP Eddie



Walsall North MP Eddie Hughes with I'm A Celebrity winner Georgia 'Toff' Toffolo at the Commons

I'm A Celebrity winner Georgia 'Toff' Toffolo met MP for Walsall North Eddie Hughes on a trip to the House of Commons.

Toff had photographs taken with a number of Conservatives. Mr Hughes posted the picture on Twitter with the caption: "Great start to my day meeting the very charming @ToffTalks in the House of commons. A tremendous ambassador for young people." Other photos of Toff with top Tories that popped up on Twitter included the MP for North East Somerset Jacob Rees Mog, Mansfield MP Ben Bradley and Lewes MP Maria Caulfield.

Toff, a nickname she gave herself, is known to be a Conservative supporter and enjoyed a tour around Parliament on Wednesday. The jungle queen rose to fame as a star on Made in Chelsea. It was also recently announced that has landed a presenting job on This Morning for the Oscars which will be held on March 4 this year.

# Residents' fury over return of homes plan

A CONTROVERSIAL proposal for a 449-home estate has resurfaced seven years after development bosses gave it the green light, to the dismay of residents.

Persimmon Homes and Bloor Homes had secured permission in principle from Cannock Chase council to build the scheme at Norton Hall Lane, Norton Canes, in 2011.

But not a single brick has been laid since then causing some locals in the area to assume it had fallen through or forget about it altogether. Now the latest part of the scheme, which sets out the proposed layout, has finally come forward leaving the community baffled.

Dozens of residents turned up at Norton Canes Community Centre last Tuesday, with many believing they were there to cast their eye over an entirely new development.

But the night turned sour and prompted angry scenes when they were told the scheme had already been granted approval and WILL go ahead. Although the latest 'reserved matters' application still requires the

By Carl Jackson

formality of being agreed by the council's planning committee. It has now emerged the developers' initial proposal was not actually signed off by council officers until 2015 due to lengthy discussions over some of the conditions.

Councillor John Preece, who represents Norton Canes, said: "A lot of the residents thought it was a new application that they could change and object to. The problem is the developers have already got permission, all they needed to do was come up with a layout."

"The developers were there (on Tuesday) to talk about the plans and I completely understand why residents were so frustrated."

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# National Theatre tour brings Hedda to Grand

THE National Theatre's production of classic marital strife drama **Hedda Gabler** is being staged at Wolverhampton Grand Theatre.

This modern version of Henrik Ibsen's classic 1891 play has been adapted by Olivier Award-winning playwright Patrick Marber to give a contemporary resonance to the story of a young bride trapped in a loveless marriage, which drives her to extremes. This critically acclaimed production is now on a UK and Ireland tour following a sold out run at the National Theatre.

## Dramatic

It is being staged at the Grand from Tuesday to Saturday, January 27

Lizzy Watts plays the title role of the free-spirited Hedda Gabler, one of the greatest dramatic parts in theatre and regarded as the female Hamlet. Miss Watts' theatre credits include *Strife* at Chichester Festival Theatre, *A Midsummer Night's Dream* at The Globe, *Blink* for Nabokov and *Wasted* for Paines Plough. Her TV work includes *The Durrells* and *Midsommer Murders* and she plays Ivy Layton in BBC Radio 4's *Home Front*.

It is directed by Olivier and Tony Award-winner Ivo van Hove, who also directed acclaimed productions of *A View from the Bridge* and *Network*.

There is an opening night two for one ticket offer and for further details see [grandtheatre.co.uk](http://grandtheatre.co.uk) or call the box office on 01902 429212.



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Mick working as a safety officer down the pit



Mick Drury with Councillor Alan Dean at book launch



Eastern Europeans waiting to go down the mine



The mines rescue team at Valley Colliery

# The pits? No I loved it says ex-miner Mick

IT was a job worked in darkness and surrounded by danger. But for ex-miner-turned-author Mick Drury it was the best job ever.

And now the 81-year-old from Hednesford has released his memoirs of more than 30 years spent at Littleton Colliery, in the village of Huntington.

The colliery closed in 1993 and was the last working coal mine on the Cannock Chase Coalfield. Mick's book, aptly entitled 'Boots All My Life', tells tales of his daily life as a miner and includes fascinating images of his time down the pit.

He said: "I look back with such fond memories despite it being hard work. We were moving 22 tonnes of coal a day. I never realised that everyday that was happening. There was great comradery and the humour in the pits kept us going. I went all through working on the coalface."

"Boots All My Life will now be my

## MEMORY LANE

Report by Clare Butler

10th book. Among the others, I have written about the coal board and community life in ex-army barrack huts, which I had to do a lot of research on, but this is my memories about my time at the colliery."

Mick could easily have seen his future guided in another path away from the coalface had it not been for the death of his father.

### Redundant

"I started in the mines straight after I finished school in 1951," he said. "I was originally going to work as a printer but my father died in an accident. It left my brother and mother at home without a penny, so I thought I can't let this go on."

"I went down to the pit and got a job within a week."

Mick said from that moment on the only time he was not down the pit was

when he was in the Army as a mechanic for three years until 1989.

"I was made redundant in 1989 but I still see a lot of people I know around the town," he said. "I have kept in touch with most of the men who used to work there, despite some of them sadly passing on now, but we still try to have our gatherings."

The book has taken 16 years to write, on and off, before finally making it to publication. It was originally to be left just to Mick's family and was never intended to be put out for the public to enjoy.

"Back in the 70s I met with an author from Hednesford who said that I should write down about my time at the mines," added Mick. "Then, in 2001, I formed the Mining Society in Cannock Chase and realised that I had come across books about different mines but there was nothing about Cannock."

Boots All My Life is available from Councillor Alan Dean on 01543 275638. The cover price is £14 or £10 for members of the Mining Society.



Mick giving a demonstration in 2010

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# Why it's now Strictly business for Ore

**C**elebrity dancers and their professional partners will return to Birmingham Arena tomorrow (Friday), Saturday and Sunday for five shows.

Strictly Come Dancing fans can feast on the dancing shoes and sequins of Gemma Atkinson and Aljaž Skorjanec; Alexandra Burke and Gorka Marquez; Susan Calman and Kevin Clifton; Davood Ghadami and Nadiya Bychkova; Joe McFadden and Katya Jones; Debbie McGee and Giovanni Pernice; and Jonnie Peacock and Oti Mabuse.

The fabulous celebrities and professional dancers will be joining the tour judging panel of Craig Revel Horwood, Bruno Tonioli and Darcey Bussell.

To round off the sparkling line-up, the tour will be hosted by reigning Strictly Champion Ore Oduba. They will all be joined by more Strictly professional dancers, the Strictly singers and the Strictly live band.

For Ore, it's a dream come true to be involved in the show once more. He's a Strictly addict who watches every minute of every show.

"If there's a slight mistake, my heart sinks and beats unhealthily fast. Even before the titles run, I can feel what the dancers are feeling. What would be funny is if someone filmed me, Gogglebox-style, watching Strictly. It's like a one-man-band of weird."

Ore admitted he'd missed the show so much that he jumped at the chance to get involved when he was asked.

"I'm not pining to be doing it again, but if there's something I miss it's the camaraderie and the backstage buzz. There's nothing like that buzz."

One of the most popular performers at Birmingham Arena will be Debbie McGee. The star was the surprise package of last year's show and didn't realise the chemistry she'd have with her partner, Giovanni Pernice.

"It's one in a million. We realised we wanted to dance together, but I don't think we realised the absolute chemistry we'd have."

## DESERVED

"There's a magic that is happening. The other dancers took the mickey out of us. He really cares, he doesn't just care about me, he cares about everybody. He makes everyone feel special and that's what Paul used to do, and that's what I love about him."

"We've laughed about how similar we are. Why does it happen in life? I don't know. We just have this incredible bond. I don't care because we had the most amazing time and we said, 'Let's just enjoy the last three dances', and for me, all I wanted to do was to do the best I possibly could, which I did, so I'm happy. We all deserved to win. It doesn't matter because we had a great time."

Last year's show was the 15th series of Strictly Come Dancing and featured winner Joe McFadden along with runners-up Debbie McGee, Gemma Atkinson and Alexandra Burke.

Joe says he found himself under pressure during the TV show. "You're concentrating on each move. I know she's (Katya) got her eyes out looking for me doing it wrong and having a turned-in foot when it should be turned out and not having fingers pointed at the end."

Despite his success in the show, Joe and the runners-up didn't stick around to party after the Glitterball presentation.

"There was a little bit of a party Saturday night. The four finalists were all so exhausted – I don't think we partied very hard. And I of course had the obligatory cold which descended instantly, the second I won."

Alexandra Burke made her name on another reality TV show – The X Factor – and has got engaged since Strictly ended just before Christmas.

She shared a photo showing her hand with the words "I said yes" written on it, after getting engaged in Paris on December 18.

"So grateful for this amazing man in my life who has supported my family and I through so much," she added.

"We decided to keep this between us for a while to enjoy this special moment and that's why we haven't

Let's dance – Alexandra Burke and Debbie McGee will perform



*If there's something  
I miss it's the  
camaraderie and  
the backstage buzz*

said anything . . . Something so amazing honestly felt so overwhelming because there was only one person I wanted to call when it happened. I know she is smiling and very happy for us both - because little did I know she knew about it.

"For those who guessed and have left such beautiful messages – thank you. Josh is someone who makes me so happy and I've never felt this kind of love before. Here's to an amazing future that's filled with love, joy and so much happiness. I love you Joshua Ginnelly. I can't wait to see what our future brings and what God provides for us xxx"

Gemma Atkinson, meanwhile, has fuelled rumours of romance with Ryan Giggs, since the show ended. The duo had a lunch date at a restaurant in Manchester, even though they have denied dating.

Atkinson said she was bored by the speculation: "Anyone I hang about with of the opposite sex, people say I'm going out with. Whenever we all go out together as friends people say we're in a relationship."

Atkinson is best known for her role as Lisa Hunter on Hollyoaks and for the character Tamzin Bayle on Casualty. She also plays Carly Hope on Emmerdale and is an ex-glamour model.

The Manchester entertainer rose to fame on Hollyoaks



and her star has continued to rise. She has previously featured in the reality show Soapstar Superstar as well as Celebrity Weakest Link and Celebrity Mastermind.

● For more entertainment news and reviews see The Ticket in your Express & star every Friday.



Iain Mackay and Jenna Roberts



## Iain's ballet goodbye

TOMORROW night (Friday) the acclaimed Royal Ballet Sinfonia returns to the Symphony Hall in Birmingham for their annual Evening of Music and Dance.

Compered by Birmingham Royal Ballet company director David Bintley, led by principal conductor Paul Murphy and joined on stage by BRB dancers, this event is an extraordinary evening of beautiful music and stunning dance in one of the best concert halls in the world.

This year's programme will include danced excerpts from Don Quixote, La Fille mal gardée and The Sleeping Beauty, alongside Humperdinck's overture to Hansel and Gretel, Korngold's suite from the film

The Adventures of Robin Hood and Elgar's beautiful miniature, Sospiri. The programme also includes a pas de deux from Christopher Wheeldon's After The Rain, a company premiere for Birmingham Royal Ballet.

This performance will be particularly special because, after an incredible 18 year career with Birmingham Royal Ballet, principal dancer Iain Mackay will give his final performance. He is to dance the Adagio from Spartacus with Jenna Roberts.

One of Birmingham Royal Ballet's most valued and versatile dancers, Iain's ability to take on everything from classical princes to intense dramatic roles has seen him become a firm favourite with audiences at Birmingham Hippodrome and at the company's touring venues across the UK.

## Beautiful start to blockbuster year



There is a blockbuster 2018 ahead at Birmingham Hippodrome, following the final performance of the big festive panto Cinderella on January 28.

It kicks off with Beautiful The Carole King Musical (January 31 to February 3), based on the life of one of America's finest songwriters. The West End hit is making a rapid return to the Hurst Street theatre following its success there last year. It stars Brontë Barbé, pictured, as Carole King.

Dance is always a priority at the Hippodrome and there is a real anticipation around the arrival of Matthew Bourne's radical reworking of Cinderella (Feb 6-10) in a London blitz context. Some may have seen this stylish ballet when it was screened by the BBC at Christmas.

Then Birmingham Royal Ballet return to their home theatre, for the first time since their festive treat The Nutcracker, to perform spectacular family favourite The Sleeping Beauty (Feb 13-24). The production harks back to the glory days of Imperial Russian ballet with a score by Tchaikovsky and choreography by Marius Petipa.

February promises to be a funny month with lots of top one-nighter comedy, not least Luisa Omielan's Dead Funny Birmingham's Big Comedy Gala (Feb 28). Confirmed guests include Sara Pascoe, Nish Kumar, Tom Allen, Suzi Ruffell and Ellie Taylor. All proceeds go to Helena's Hospice Foundation.

Other laughter makers at the Hippodrome include Sean Lock (Feb 27), Dara O'Briain for three nights from March 1 and Jon Richardson on March 10.

Opera takes centre stage when Welsh National Opera visit with La Forza del Destino (March 6), Don Giovanni (Mar 7) and Tosca (Mar 8).

Shiamak Davar, one of the most sought-after choreographers in Bollywood, brings the vibrant Spirit of India with 250 dancers to the Hippodrome on March 11.

It will be a case of Don't Cry For Me Argentina when popular musical Evita returns (Mar 20-24) and riotous farce with The Play That Goes Wrong (Mar 27-31).

The first of the mega-shows arrives in April when evergreen West End and Broadway hit Wicked looks at the Oz story from a different angle, April 4 to 29. The summer's big show sees Roald Dahl, the RSC and Tim Minchin's talents combine for Matilda The Musical from July 3 to September 8.

## Superska sounds start the weekend

ENERGETIC eight-piece band The Superskas bring mod and skinhead favourite sounds to the Robin 2 in Bilston tomorrow night (Friday). There is plenty for prog rock fans to enjoy at the Mount Pleasant venue with G2 Definitive Genesis on Saturday night, then Lifesigns perform tracks from new album Cardington on Sunday. New Jersey outfit the Billy Walton Band play on Wednesday and its jump 'n' jive outfit King Pleasure & The Biscuit Boys with The Miss Fortunes on Thursday.

## Violin sensation plays Vivaldi masterpiece

Acclaimed violinist Joshua Bell will be performing Vivaldi's The Four Seasons at Symphony Hall, Birmingham, on Tuesday. Performing with the Academy of St Martin in the Fields, his concert will also include works by Beethoven and Edgar Meyer. Also at Symphony Hall, the world's famous brass band, Black Dyke Band, are in concert on Sunday afternoon and John Wilson conducts the CBSO for a Leonard Bernstein programme on Wednesday.

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CHOICE



Paddy McGuinness

**Take Me Out (ITV, 6.45pm)**  
Paddy McGuinness continues to arrange more dates for his returning panel of 30 single girls. This time, the Love Lift delivers a model from the Wirral, a caricaturist from Blackpool, a student from London, and a musician from Brighton. If any of these men are to secure a chance at love, they must first impress the single ladies enough for them to signal their approval by keeping their lights on.

BBC1

**6.00** Breakfast. **10.00** Saturday Kitchen Live. **11.30** Mary Berry Everyday. (R) **12.00** Football Focus. **1.00** BBC News; Weather. **1.15** Live Snooker: The Masters. Coverage of the opening semi-final. **4.30** Final Score. **5.30** BBC News. **5.40** Regional Programme. **5.50** And They're Off for Sport Relief.  
**6.30** **Pointless Celebrities.** Gail Emms, Audley Harrison, David Spinx, Susie Amy, Katy Brand, Brian Belo, Lisa Maffia and Marvin "Romeo" Dawkins compete in a quiz for stars who found fame in the noughties.  
**7.20** **Wedding Day Winners.** Phil and Beks from Ascot take on Kirsty and David from Swansea, as Lorraine Kelly and Rob Beckett challenge them to compete in a series of tasks for the chance to win a televised wedding and a dream honeymoon. This week's celebrity wedding guests are Jimmy Osmond, McFly's Tom Fletcher and Harry Judd, Pussycat Doll Ashley Roberts, First Dates maître d' Fred Sirieix, and comedian Tom Allen.  
**8.20** **Casualty.** Elle and Jacob realise they must tackle Blake's problems head-on when his friend Miles is admitted to the ED.  
**9.10** **BBC News:** Weather.  
**9.30** **Hard Sun.** Renko investigates evidence uncovered by DCS Roland Bell that suggests Hicks and Butler were corrupt, but she faces troubling questions at home when Daniel, fresh from his visit by Grace, begins to ask uncomfortable questions about both Hard Sun and his father. Meanwhile, a disillusioned former aid worker who believes the apocalyptic warning suffers a dangerous crisis of faith, and the spree killer confesses his sins to his priest, Fr Dennis, but the seal of the confessional causes complications for the police inquiry. Pre-apocalyptic sci-fi thriller, starring Jim Sturgess and Agyness Deyn.  
**10.30** **Match of the Day.** Gary Lineker presents highlights of the latest Premier League matches, including Brighton & Hove Albion v Chelsea at the AMEX Stadium and Burnley v Manchester United.  
**12.00** The NFL Show. **12.30** Film: Papadopoulos & Sons. (2012) **2.15** Weather for the Week Ahead. **2.20** BBC News.

BBC2

**6.10** The Wonder of Animals. (R) **6.40** Naomi's Nightmares of Nature. **7.10** The Pets Factor. **7.30** Matilda and the Ramsay Bunch. **7.45** Matilda and the Ramsay Bunch. **8.00** The Designers. **8.30** Deadly Top 10. (R) **9.00** Robot Wars. (R) **10.00** Steve Backshall's Extreme Mountain Challenge. (R) **11.00** The Snow Wolf Family and Me. (R) **12.00** The Hairy Bikers' Mediterranean Adventure. (R) **1.00** A Vicar's Life. (R) **1.30** Back to the Land with Kate Humble. (R) **2.30** Trust Me, I'm a Doctor. (R) **3.00** Tennis: Australian Open 2018. **4.30** Live Snooker: The Masters. Hazel Irvine presents concluding coverage of the opening semi-final. **5.30** Tom Kerridge: Lose Weight for Good. (R) **6.00** **Hugh's Wild West.** Hugh Fearnley-Whittingstall's wildlife-themed odyssey through the West Country continues, as he explores the ancient woods and valleys of Dartmoor on a mission to find out more about his favourite garden bird, the long-tailed tit. Meeting local naturalist John Walters, he learns how family life is the key to survival for these social birds, and with the help of nature expert Leo Gubert, he manages to track down a hibernating dormouse. Plus, a close encounter with some feisty wood ants.  
**7.00** **Live Snooker: The Masters.** Hazel Irvine presents coverage of the second semi-final, played over the best of 11 frames on day seven at Alexandra Palace in London. Despite being an invitational event, this tournament is considered one of the more prestigious on the snooker calendar, and with the winner set to claim a cheque for £200,000, both of the players in this contest will be eager to progress to tomorrow's final. With commentary and analysis by Steve Davis, Ken Doherty, Stephen Hendry, John Parrott, Dennis Taylor and John Virgo.  
**10.30** **QI XL.** Aisling Bea, Russell Brand and Noel Fielding join Alan Davies and host Sandi Toksvig for an extended edition of the unconventional panel quiz, this time focusing on "The Occult".  
**11.15** **Performance Live: I Told My Mum I Was Going on an RE Trip.** Drama, exploring Britain's many varying attitudes to abortion.  
**12.00** Snooker: The Masters – Extra. **2.00** This Is BBC Two.

ITV

**6.00** CITY: Sooty. **6.10** Bottom Knocker Street. (R) **6.20** Bottom Knocker Street. (R) **6.35** Dino Dana. (R) **6.50** Super 4. (R) **7.00** Signed Stories: Share a Story. (R) **7.05** Marvel Ultimate Spider-Man vs The Sinister Six. **7.30** Scrambled!: Scrambled! **7.35** Scrambled!: The Tom and Jerry Show. (R) **7.55** Scrambled!: Fangbone. (R) **8.10** Scrambled!: The Powerpuff Girls. (R) **8.30** Scrambled!: Be Cool, Scooby-Do! (R) **9.05** Scrambled!: Wishart. (R) **9.25** ITV News. **9.30** James Martin's Saturday Morning. **11.20** The Hungry Sailors. (R) **12.20** Countrywise. (R) **12.50** ITV News; Weather. **1.00** Dancing on Ice. (R) **3.00** Celebrity Catchphrase. (R) **4.00** Tipping Point. (R) **5.00** The Chase. (R)  
**6.00** **Regional Programme;** Weather.  
**6.05** **ITV News;** Weather.  
**6.20** **New You've Been Framed!** Harry Hill narrates more comical mishaps filmed by viewers, including a cat demonstrates CPR skills, and a holiday-maker who seems to have forgotten to pack any clothes.  
**6.45** **Take Me Out.** A model from the Wirral, a caricaturist from Blackpool, a student from London, and a musician from Brighton all hope to impress Paddy McGuinness's single ladies.  
**8.00** **The Voice UK.** Emma Willis presents as the coaches preside over the third round of Blind Auditions. As always, Jennifer Hudson, Will.i.am, Tom Jones and Oily Murs are tasked with assessing the potential star power of each contestant based on nothing but the power of their singing alone, only catching sight of each performer once they have delivered their verdict. The Blind Auditions represent the concept of The Voice format at its most pure, as each of the coaches aim to fill their teams with genuine undiscovered talent, before progressing the competition to its next stage.  
**9.30** **Through the Keyhole.** Keith Lemon invites Paddy McGuinness, Gregg Wallace and Scarlett Moffatt to guess "who habitates in a house like this", as he invades another three celebrities' homes.  
**10.30** **ITV News;** Weather.  
**10.45** **Film: Jaws 3.** (1983) Thriller sequel, starring Dennis Quaid.  
**12.30** Jackpot247. **3.00** Babushka. (R) **3.50** ITV Nightscreen.

CHANNEL 4

**6.00** 3rd Rock from the Sun. (R) **6.25** 3rd Rock from the Sun. (R) **6.50** The King of Queens. (R) **7.15** The King of Queens. (R) **7.40** Everybody Loves Raymond. (R) **8.05** Everybody Loves Raymond. (R) **8.35** Everybody Loves Raymond. (R) **9.05** Frasier. (R) **9.35** Frasier. (R) **10.05** Frasier. (R) **10.35** The Big Bang Theory. (R) **11.05** The Big Bang Theory. (R) **11.30** The Big Bang Theory. (R) **12.00** The Simpsons. (R) **12.30** The Simpsons. (R) **1.00** The Simpsons. (R) **1.25** Come Dine with Me. (R) **2.25** Coast vs Country. (R) **3.25** A Place in the Sun. (R) **4.30** A Place in the Sun. (R) **5.30** The Secret Life of the Zoo. (R)  
**6.30** **Channel 4 News.**  
**7.00** **Great Canal Journeys.** Timothy West and Prunella Scales explore the Norfolk Broads. This is the first time the couple have visited the area, and they learn about the unique way of life that has developed over the centuries in this network of slow-moving rivers, fens, marshes and waterlogged woodlands. Their trip takes them to a marshall's cottage, the ruins of St Benet's Abbey; and a local Norfolk wherry, and brings to mind events from the book Swallows and Amazons. (R)  
**8.00** **Village of the Year.** Five villages from this week's heats compete for a place in the grand final, as Penelope Keith tasks archaeologist Alex Langlands, garden designer Juliet Sargeant and craft expert Patrick Grant with narrowing the field in the Western Zone.  
**9.00** **Film: Sicario.** (2015) Premiere. An FBI agent is recruited to join an elite government task force based on the border between the US and Mexico, charged with preventing drugs being smuggled into the country. The team is sent on a secret mission, and the new recruit is forced to question everything she believes in order to survive. Crime drama, starring Emily Blunt, Josh Brolin and Benicio Del Toro.  
**11.25** **Film: Salt.** (2010) A CIA agent goes on the run after she is accused of being a sleeper assassin sent to murder the Russian president. Action thriller, starring Angelina Jolie.  
**1.10** Ramsay's Kitchen Nightmares USA. (R) **2.05** The Lie Detective. (R) **2.45** Hollyoaks. (R) **4.50** The Autistic Gardener. (R) **5.45** Draw It! (R)

CHANNEL 5

**6.00** Milkshake! **10.00** Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles. **10.40** Pets Make You Laugh Out Loud 2. (R) **11.05** Police Interceptors. (R) **12.05** Police Interceptors. (R) **1.05** The A-Team. (R) **2.05** The A-Team. (R) **3.10** Nightmare Tenants, Slum Landlords. (R) **4.10** Nightmare Tenants, Slum Landlords. (R) **5.10** Rich House, Poor House. (R)  
**6.05** **The Wonderful World of Puppies.** The documentary reveals how dogs learn to communicate with each other, via everything from barks to squeaks and yelps, and subtle gestures with the ears, eyes, tail and snout.  
**7.00** **Greatest Ever Celebrity Wind Ups.** Joe Pasquale narrates another selection of pranks pulled by British celebrities, placing their fellow stars on the receiving end. This time, Oily Murs tricks Caroline Flack with a terrifying driverless car journey, and mischievous duo Ant and Dec catch out chat show host Jeremy Kyle with what might possibly be the oddest guest he has ever encountered. Stephen Mulhern helps rugby star Matt Dawson prank fellow player Austin Healey, and Ben Hanlin recalls the time he persuaded Ryan Clark-Neal into taking a memorable lift ride.  
**8.00** **Blind Date.** A dental manager must choose between a picture framer, a health care worker and a sausage maker, and in a Blind Date first, a past contestant is stood up by his date; 5 News Weekend.  
**9.00** **Football on 5: The Championship.** Colin Murray introduces highlights from the weekend's games in the Championship, including Wolverhampton Wanderers v Nottingham Forest and Leeds United v Millwall.  
**9.55** **Football on 5: Goal Rush.** Colin Murray introduces all the goals from the weekend's games in Leagues One and Two, including AFC Wimbledon v Blackpool and Plymouth Argyle v Wigan Athletic.  
**10.25** **Celebrity Big Brother.** Highlights of the housemates' past 24 hours under the all-seeing eye of Big Brother, as they try to get used to living alongside one another.  
**11.30** **The X-Files.** The sci-fi mystery drama returns. Gillian Anderson and David Duchovny star. (R)  
**12.15** SuperCasino. **3.10** GPs: Behind Closed Doors. (R)

DIGITAL

**BBC Four**  
**7.00** Shipwrecks: Britain's Sunken Kingdom **8.00** Alaska – Earth's Frozen Kingdom **9.00** Spiral **10.55** The Vietnam War **11.50** Top of the Pops: 1985 **12.30** Neil Sedaka: King of Song **1.30** Neil Sedaka Says: All You Need is the Music **2.15** Shipwrecks: Britain's Sunken History **3.15** Close  
**ITV2**  
**11.25** Take Me Out **12.40** You've Been Framed! **Gold 1.15** Film: St Trinian's 2: The Legend of Fritton's Gold (2009) **2.15** FYI Daily **2.20** Film: St Trinian's 2: The Legend of Fritton's Gold (2009) **3.20** Film: The Smurfs 2 (2013) **4.20** FYI Daily **4.25** Film: The Smurfs 2 (2013) **5.25** Film: The Lord of the Rings: The Two Towers (2002) **6.25** FYI Daily **6.30** Film: The Lord of the Rings: The Two Towers (2002) **9.00** Film: Fast & Furious (2009) **10.00** FYI Daily **10.05** Film: Fast & Furious (2009) **11.10** Family Guy **12.05** American Dad! **1.05** Release the Hounds **2.05** Ibiza Weekender **2.55** Teleshopping  
**ITV3**  
**1.55** Rosemary & Thyme **2.55** Film: Columbo Goes to the Guillotine (1989) **4.55** Midsomer Murders **11.00** Lewis **1.00** On the Buses **2.00** ITV3 Nightscreen **2.30** Teleshopping  
**ITV4**  
**11.50** FYI Daily **11.55** Film: Superman (1978) **1.30** ITV Racing: Live from Ascot. Coverage of today's race meetings at Ascot and Haydock Park. **4.00** Film: Goldfinger (1964) **5.05** FYI Daily **5.10** Film: Goldfinger (1964) **6.15** Pawn Stars **7.15** Film: Police Academy 3: Back in Training (1986) **8.25** FYI Daily **8.30** Film: Police Academy 3: Back in Training (1986) **11.40** Film: The Blues Brothers (1980) **12.55** Beetlejuice (1988) **12.50** FYI Daily **12.55** Film: Beetlejuice (1988) **1.35** Car Crash Global: Caught on Camera **2.35** Tommy Cooper **3.00** Teleshopping  
**E4**  
**12.30** Film: Alvin and the Chipmunks: The Squeakquel (2009) **2.20** Rude(ish) Tube Shorts **2.30** The Goldbergs **5.00** The Big Bang Theory **8.00** Film: The Karate Kid (2010) **10.40** Gogglebox **12.50** Rude Tube **1.55** Gogglebox **2.55** First Dates **3.50** How I Met Your Mother **Film4**  
**11.00** The SpongeBob SquarePants Movie (2004) **1.00** Vice Versa (1989) **2.55** Fantastic Voyage (1966) **5.00** Congo (1995) **7.15** Source Code (2011) **9.00** The Abyss (1989) **11.45** The Piper (2015) **1.55** Intruders (2011) **4.00** Close

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- ✓ Return flights to Dubrovnik incl. transfers
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## Highlights of Corsica

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from Birmingham (BHX)

### Price Includes...

- ✓ Return flights to Bastia incl. transfers
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- ✓ One evening of entertainment with Corsican songs and guitars
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## Little Trains of Austria

**Departing Tuesday 3 Jul**  
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Royal Capitals

**Departing Wednesday 4 Jul**  
from Birmingham (BHX)

### Price Includes...

- ✓ Return flights to Copenhagen incl. transfers
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- ✓ 3 nights DBB at the Scandic Sydhaven Hotel, Copenhagen
- ✓ 2 nights DBB at the Scandic Ambassadeur Hotel, Drammen
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CHOICE



**Linda Bassett**  
**Call the Midwife (BBC1, 8pm)**  
New series. A new midwife joins the team as the area is rocked by power cuts and blizzards. The new arrival is delayed by the weather and falls ill as soon as she arrives. However, she is quickly dragged from her sick bed to assist with a difficult birth. Nurse Crane and Dr Turner treat an elderly cancer patient who faces losing her house due to slum clearances, and try to convince Sergeant Woolf to allow her to die at home. Jenny Agutter, Leonie Elliott, Linda Bassett, Judy Parfitt, Helen George, Laura Main, Victoria Yeates and Annabelle Apsion star.

BBC1

**6.00** Breakfast. **7.30** Match of the Day. (R) **9.00** The Andrew Marr Show. **10.00** The Big Questions. **11.00** Regional Programme. **12.15** Bargain Hunt. (R) **1.00** BBC News: Weather. **1.15** Money for Nothing. (R) **2.15** Escape to the Country. (R) **3.15** Lifeline. **3.25** Big Cats. (R) **4.25** Songs of Praise. **5.00** The Coronation. (R) **6.00** BBC News. **6.20** Regional Programme. **6.30** Countryfile. Anita Rani visits Leicester to discover why spring plants are flowering in winter in the city. She also pays a visit to the city's university to learn about Britain's 300 species of rare plants. John Craven attends the building of a new birdwatching hide at Rutland Water, and Tom Heap examines the challenges faced by rural fire services. **7.30** Still Open All Hours. Granville encourages Gastric to enter an art competition, and faces the challenge of selling a box full of mysterious tins, despite not knowing what they contain. **8.00** Call the Midwife. New series. A new midwife joins the team as the area is rocked by power cuts and blizzards, but she falls ill as soon as she arrives and soon has to assist with a difficult birth. **9.00** McMafia. Semiyon's fortunes seem to be on the rise – until he is arrested in Tel Aviv. Alex and Rebecca announce their engagement, and Lyudmilla sees a chance to regain her freedom. **10.00** BBC News. **10.20** Regional Programme. **10.30** Match of the Day 2. Mark Chapman reviews the day's Premier League action, featuring highlights of Sunday's only game – Southampton v Tottenham Hotspur at St Mary's Stadium. **11.20** Man Like Mobeen. Eight learns that his father is dying. When Mobeen agrees to visit him one last time, he is unprepared for the terrible secret he learns and the favour the old man has to ask. **11.40** Man Like Mobeen. An anti-Islam march comes through the neighbourhood, and Mobeen ends up sharing a police van with the leader when he takes the blame for Aki's counter-protest. Last in the series. **12.05** Weather for the Week Ahead. **12.10** BBC News.

BBC2

**6.15** A to Z of TV Gardening. (R) **6.35** The Instant Gardener. (R) **7.20** Gardeners' World. (R) **7.50** Greatest Gardens. (R) **8.20** Monty Don's Paradise Gardens. (R) **9.20** Countryfile. (R) **10.15** Saturday Kitchen Best Bites. **11.45** Food & Drink. (R) **12.15** MOTD2 Extra. **1.00** Live Snooker: The Masters. Coverage of the opening eight frames of the final. **5.15** Ski Sunday. **6.00** Tennis: Australian Open 2018. Kat Downes presents action from day seven of the opening Grand Slam tournament of the year, which takes place at Melbourne Park, and featured the latest fourth-round matches. **7.00** Live Snooker: The Masters. Hazel Irvine presents concluding coverage of the final from Alexandra Palace, London, where a maximum of 11 frames will be played to decide this year's champion. Last week's showpiece match was a closely fought contest, with Ronnie O'Sullivan having claimed a 10-7 victory over Joe Perry to win the competition for a record-breaking seventh time, putting him ahead of Stephen Hendry in the all-time list. With commentary and analysis by Steve Davis, Ken Doherty, Stephen Hendry, John Parrott, Dennis Taylor and John Virgo. **11.00** The Mash Report. Nish Kumar and a cast of comedy correspondents present the satirical and surreal take on the week's news. (R) **11.30** Insert Name Here. Comedy panel game in which host Sue Perkins asks teams captained by Richard Osman and Josh Widdicombe to answer questions about famous people who share a name. (R) **12.00** Film: All Good Things. (2010) The heir of a wealthy family marries a medical student, but is suspected of murdering her when she disappears without trace. Crime drama, starring Ryan Gosling and Kirsten Dunst. **1.35** Film: Good Morning Karachi. (2013) A Pakistani woman hopes to pursue a career as a model despite disapproval from her mother and rising tensions in the country. Drama, with Amna Ilyas and Beo Raana Zafar. **3.00** Sign Zone: Question Time. Topical debate from Hereford. (R) **4.00** Holby City. Essie struggles to use her head over her heart as she gets involved with Gaskell's trial, and Oliver is transferred to AAU for a change of scene. (R) **4.55** This Is BBC Two.

ITV

**6.00** CITY: Sooty. **6.10** Bottom Knocker Street. (R) **6.20** Bottom Knocker Street. (R) **6.35** Dino Dana. (R) **6.50** Super 4. (R) **7.00** Signed Stories: Share a Story. (R) **7.05** Marvel Ultimate Spider-Man vs The Sinister Six. **7.30** Scrambled!: Scrambled! **7.35** Scrambled!: The Tom and Jerry Show. (R) **7.55** Scrambled!: Ben 10. **8.10** Scrambled!: Mr Bean: The Animated Series. (R) **8.30** Scrambled!: Spy School. **9.05** Scrambled!: Wishart. (R) **9.25** ITV News. **9.30** River Monsters. (R) **10.00** Peston on Sunday. **11.00** The Martin Lewis Money Show. (R) **11.25** The Voice UK. (R) **12.55** ITV News: Weather. **1.00** Britain's Best Walks with Julia Bradbury. (R) **1.30** Britain's Brightest Family. (R) **2.00** The Cruise: Return to the Mediterranean. (R) **2.30** Film: Kindergarten Cop. (1990) Comedy, starring Arnold Schwarzenegger. **4.35** Regional Programme: Weather. **4.45** ITV News: Weather. **5.00** The Chase: Celebrity Special. (R) **6.00** Dancin' on Ice. Phillip Schofield and Holly Willoughby present disco week, as the remaining 11 celebrities and their professional partners perform to impress judges Jayne Torvill, Christopher Dean, Ashley Banjo and Jason Gardiner and avoid having to compete in a skate-off to remain in the contest for another week. **8.10** Vera. A mother of two is found murdered in her back garden. Vera and Aiden investigate the case, and delve into the disturbing secrets and ongoing conflicts that lurk beneath the surface of the victim's seemingly peaceful suburban community. The case takes a more complicated turn when the dead woman's estranged family make an unexpected reappearance, and while several of her neighbours may have had cause to carry out a crime of passion, her relatives may have had compelling motives of their own to kill. Guest starring Rita Tushingham. **10.10** ITV News: Weather. **10.25** Peston on Sunday. Political magazine, presented by Robert Peston, with Allegra Stratton. (R) **11.25** Next of Kin. Mona travels to Lahore to identify Kareem's body and though the trip presents an opportunity to meet Danny, it instead leads her into grave danger in a remote corner of the city. (R) **12.20** Great Art. (R) **1.10** Jackpot247. **3.00** Sunday Night at the Palladium. (R)

CHANNEL 4

**6.10** Jamie's Comfort Food. (R) **6.20** The King of Queens. (R) **6.45** The King of Queens. (R) **7.10** Everybody Loves Raymond. (R) **7.35** Everybody Loves Raymond. (R) **8.00** Frasier. (R) **8.30** Frasier. (R) **9.00** Frasier. (R) **9.30** Sunday Brunch. **12.30** Jamie and Jimmy's Friday Night Feast. (R) **1.30** The Simpsons. (R) **2.00** The Simpsons. (R) **2.30** The Simpsons. (R) **3.00** Film: Capture the Flag. (2015) Premiere. Animated sci-fi adventure, with the voice of Sam Fink. **4.50** Film: Aladdin. (1992) Disney animated adventure, with the voice of Robin Williams. **6.35** Channel 4 News. **7.00** Posh Pawn. New series. Memorabilia expert Lawrence's knowledge of cars is put to the test as James gets his hands on an E-Type Jaguar worth over £100,000. Plus, Claudia values a customer's extravagant impulse buy and Lawrence goes to Hertfordshire to appraise some unusual artwork. **8.00** The Biggest Little Railway in the World. The train struggles to cross the first hill on the line – which is only a gentle incline compared to the vast rises to come. The team also needs to build a track-stabilising device to prevent the train from falling over, while Claire comes across a rocky stream near Fort Augustus, and makes plans to build a curving trestle bridge. **9.00** SAS: Who Dares Wins. The recruits are divided into two teams for a series of challenges designed to test both their ability to bond as a group, including a time trial run across the Sahara Desert. **10.00** 8 Out of 10 Cats Does Countdown. Jimmy Carr hosts as Jon Richardson and Joe Wilkinson take on guest captain Kevin Bridges and Jessica Knappett. Dr John Cooper Clarke helps out in Dictionary Corner. (R) **10.55** Film: Season of the Witch. (2011) Two knights escort a suspected witch to trial during the Black Death, but are not prepared for the powers she possesses. Fantasy adventure, with Nicolas Cage and Ron Perlman. **12.45** Obsessive Compulsive Cleaners. (R) **1.40** The Lie Detective. (R) **2.25** Grand Designs Australia. (R) **3.20** Location, Location, Location. (R) **4.15** KOTV Boxing Weekly. **4.45** Coast vs Country. (R)

CHANNEL 5

**6.00** Milkshake!: Little Princess. **6.10** Wanda and the Alien. (R) **6.20** Poppy Cat. (R) **6.35** Wisper. (R) **6.40** Milkshake! Bopping About. (R) **6.45** Simon. (R) **6.50** Peppa Pig. (R) **7.00** Paw Patrol. (R) **7.10** Thomas & Friends. (R) **7.20** Fireman Sam. (R) **7.30** Olly the Little White Van. (R) **7.40** Blaze and the Monster Machines. (R) **8.00** Paw Patrol. (R) **8.20** Nella the Princess Knight. **8.35** Noddy: Toyland Detective. (R) **8.50** Ben and Holly's Little Kingdom. (R) **9.10** Shimmer and Shine. (R) **9.25** Digby Dragon. (R) **9.40** Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles. **10.15** Football on 5: The Championship. (R) **11.10** Football on 5: Goal Rush. (R) **11.45** Police Interceptors. (R) **12.45** Film: Pixels. (2015) Sci-fi comedy, starring Adam Sandler. **2.35** Film: Big Daddy. (1999) Comedy, starring Adam Sandler. **4.15** Film: Mr Deeds. (2002) Romantic comedy remake, starring Adam Sandler and Winona Ryder. **5.20** 5 News Update. **5.25** Film: Mr Deeds. (2002) Concluded. **6.00** Film: Robin Hood: Prince of Thieves. (1991) An English nobleman returns home from the crusades to find his father has been murdered and the local people are repressed by the tyrannical rule of the Sheriff of Nottingham. Branded an outlaw, he recruits a group of bandits to fight for justice and protect the downtrodden. Action adventure, starring Kevin Costner, Alan Rickman, Morgan Freeman and Mary Elizabeth Mastrantonio. **7.00** 5 News Update. **7.05** Film: Robin Hood: Prince of Thieves. (1991) Concluded. **8.55** 5 News Weekend. **9.00** Celebrity Big Brother. Highlights of another day for the illustrious inhabitants as they cope with the day-to-day complications of life under the all-seeing eye of Big Brother, while also dealing with one another's quirks and foibles. **10.00** Film: Life As We Know It. (2010) Two people who do not get on are forced to live together when they are named guardians of their dead friends' baby daughter. Comedy, starring Katherine Heigl and Josh Duhamel. **12.10** Film: That's My Boy. (2012) Comedy, starring Adam Sandler and Andy Samberg. **2.15** SuperCasino. **3.10** GPS: Behind Closed Doors. (R) **4.00** Get Your Tatts Out: Kavos Ink. **4.45** House Doctor. (R) **5.10** Wildlife SOS. (R) **5.35** Divine Designs. (R)

DIGITAL

**BBC Four**  
**7.00** Only Connect **7.30** University Challenge **8.00** The Tea Trail with Simon Reeve **9.00** Hunt v Landa: F1's Greatest Racing Rivals **10.00** Film: Before the Winter Chill (2013) **11.40** Natural World **12.40** Hunt v Landa: F1's Greatest Racing Rivals **1.40** The Tea Trail with Simon Reeve **2.40** Art, Passion & Power: The Story of the Royal Collection **3.40** Close **ITV2**  
**12.25** Take Me Out **1.45** The Voice UK **3.20** Film: The Flintstones (1994) **4.20** FYI Daily **4.25** Film: The Flintstones (1994) **5.05** Film: The Lord of the Rings: The Return of the King (2003) **6.05** FYI Daily **6.10** Film: The Lord of the Rings: The Return of the King (2003) **9.00** Ibiza Weekender **10.00** Family Guy **11.30** American Dad! **12.30** Film: Zack and Miri Make a Porno (2008) **1.30** FYI Daily **1.35** Film: Zack and Miri Make a Porno (2008) **2.25** Teleshopping **5.55** ITV3 Nightscreen **ITV3**  
**11.55** Foyle's War **6.00** Agatha Christie's Marple **8.00** Paul O'Grady: For the Love of Dogs **9.00** Tonight at the London Palladium **10.00** Birds of a Feather **11.00** Film: The Sting (1973) **1.30** Blue Murder **2.50** Rosemary & Thyme **3.40** Road to Avonlea **5.25** On the Buses **5.55** ITV3 Nightscreen **ITV4**  
**12.00** Film: Superman (1978) **1.20** FYI Daily **1.25** Film: Superman (1978) **3.00** Film: Police Academy 3: Back in Training (1986) **4.00** FYI Daily **4.05** Film: Police Academy 3: Back in Training (1986) **4.40** Film: Ferris Bueller's Day Off (1986) **5.40** FYI Daily **5.45** Film: Ferris Bueller's Day Off (1986) **6.45** Hornblower **9.00** Film: Unknown (2011) **10.05** FYI Daily **10.10** Film: Unknown (2011) **11.20** Film: Scarface (1983) **12.20** FYI Daily **12.25** Film: Scarface (1983) **2.35** The Protectors **3.00** Teleshopping **E4**  
**11.00** Melissa & Joey **1.30** Film: Escape from Planet Earth (2013) **3.10** Rude(ish) Tube Shorts **3.30** The Big Bang Theory **9.00** Film: Lockout (2012) **10.55** The Big Bang Theory **11.55** Gogglebox **2.05** Rude Tube **3.00** First Dates **3.50** Hollyoaks **Film4**  
**11.00** Support Your Local Sheriff! (1969) **1.00** Stuart Little 2 (2002) **2.35** One Fine Day (1990) **4.45** Cheaper by the Dozen 2 (2005) **6.40** A Good Year (2006) **9.00** Avatar (2009) **12.10** Priest (2011) **1.55** Les Combattants (2014) **4.00** Close



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FILM CHOICES

MONDAY

**A Stranger with My Kids, Channel 5, 3.15pm**  
Single mother Karen hires male nanny Alex to help with her two young sons, but he has other plans and wants her family as his own. Thriller, starring Ashley Scott and Mitch Ryan. (2017)

TUESDAY

**Dance Night Obsession, Channel 5, 3.15pm**  
A professional dancer on a popular TV competition is murdered and one of her colleagues seems to have a mysterious stalker who is intent on forcing her off the show, but it soon becomes clear the killer wants her dead too. Thriller, starring Sabrina Bryan. (2016)

WEDNESDAY

**The Danish Girl, ITV, 10.45pm**  
Artist Gerda Wegener unveils a portrait of her husband Einar dressed as a woman in 1920s Copenhagen. Einar realises that the woman in the painting is his true identity, and decides to become one of the first people to undergo sex reassignment surgery. Period drama based on David Ebershoff's novel inspired by the true story of artist Lili Elbe, starring Eddie Redmayne and an Oscar-winning Alicia Vikander. (2015)



Drive, Friday, BBC2, 11.05pm

THURSDAY

**Driven Underground, Channel 5, 3.15pm**  
After her teenage daughter becomes a key witness to a mob killing and she suspects a leak inside the police force, a single mother takes her family to live in Oregon. However, as they struggle to adjust to their new life, both the police and the killers start a nationwide search for them. Drama, starring Kristy Swanson, Emily Tennant and Lochlyn Munro. (2015)

FRIDAY

**Drive, BBC2, 11.05pm**  
A stuntman who moonlights as a getaway driver tries to protect the wife and child of an imprisoned criminal. When the convict is released, the driver tries to convince him to give up his life of crime for his family's sake, but when they work together on a robbery, they end up drawn into a conflict with the Mafia. Crime drama, with Ryan Gosling, Carey Mulligan and Bryan Cranston. (2011)

# Honouring the best of the best in the TV world

**W**e love the Oscars, Golden Globes and Emmys - the Baftas aren't half bad either. But our favourite film or TV-related gong-giving ceremony of all has to be The National Television Awards.

Why? The answer is simple: because every award is voted for by the people who really count - those of us who tune in at home.

Forget the critics or the contributors' fellow cast and crew members, it's the folk who watch the shows whose opinions count the most, because without them, there would be no programmes to start off with.

So if your favourite doesn't bag a trophy on the night, you only have yourself to blame for not backing them.

Many critics believe we're in a golden age of TV, and it's hard to disagree with them. The rise and rise of on demand services means that big guns such as the BBC, ITV, Channel 4 and Sky have had to raise their games to compete with Netflix and Amazon.

As a result, we've seen some cracking shows this year, from the final instalment of Broadchurch to a fond farewell to Peter Capaldi's tenure in Doctor Who, not to mention The Great British Bake Off's move to Channel 4.

Many believed that the latter would be a flop after original hosts Mel Giedroyc and Sue Perkins and judge Mary Berry quit. However, their replacements - Sandi Toksvig, Noel Fielding and Prue Leith - have more than filled their shoes and, if anything, the programme is better than ever.

Bake Off is in the running for the Challenge Show title, and if it doesn't beat Love Island, MasterChef and I'm a Celebrity... Get Me Out of Here! we'll eat our hats, providing they're covered in spun sugar and don't have soggy bottoms, of course.

The biggest change in the proceedings comes with the creation of a Crime Drama category to reflect just how many such shows are produced these days - as well as their overwhelming popularity.

Broadchurch, Line of Duty, Little Boy Blue and Sherlock are all in the running, but it's left the good, old-fashioned Drama section a little light on quality, with Call the Midwife, Casualty, Doctor Foster, Game of Thrones and Liar as the nominees.

All are decent enough, but with less to choose from it's what's missing that is baffling - where are Taboo, The Moorside and Three Girls, for starters?

But then that can often be the joy of such ceremonies - the arguing about who or what is missing, and who or what should have been the winner; it's the kind of debate between friends that can last a very long time indeed.

Phillip Schofield, Tom Hardy, Sheridan Smith, David Tennant, Peter Kay's Car Share, Gogglebox, Loose Women and Coronation Street are also up for awards on the night.

Another change involves renaming one trophy The Bruce Forsyth Entertainment Award after the legendary performer.

# PICK OF THE WEEK



The National Television Awards 2018, Tuesday, ITV, 7.30pm

# BEST OF THE REST

MONDAY

**Surgeons: At the Edge of Life BBC2, 9pm**

Although not for the squeamish, let alone those who have a procedure planned in the next few months, this documentary series has been riveting. It concludes with an episode entitled The Pioneers, which focuses on some of the clinical trials being carried out at the Queen Elizabeth Hospital Birmingham. Cameras track three trials at the vanguard of medicine, on donor livers, implantable microphones and prostate cancer, while viewers learn what it's like to take part in this kind of experimental treatment - for both surgeons and patients. With specialist fixed-rig cameras, head-cams and microscope feeds, we once more learn more about the miracles that take place on Britain's operating tables every single day. Once again, it proves that for sheer drama, these particular theatres take some beating.

TUESDAY

**Love and Hate Crime BBC1, 10.45pm**

This fascinating series originated on BBC3 and offers an insight into some of the hate crimes committed in the US every year. Last week focused on a young man who murdered his lover in a fit of

rage after discovering she was transgender. This time the focus is on the murder of James Anderson, a black man who was mowed down by a gang of white youths travelling in a truck; an incident described as a modern-day lynching by the media. Here, cameras follow the story of 18-year-old Sarah Graves, who was in the vehicle, as she faces trial. There's also an insight into how what has happened has impacted on her family and how she became involved with a racist group, as well as a look at the case from the perspective of the police and Anderson's loved ones.

WEDNESDAY

**Stealing Van Gogh BBC2, 9pm**

Andrew Graham-Dixon is currently appearing on BBC Four every Tuesday evening as presenter of Art, Passion & Power: The Story of the Royal Collection, but he's also found the time to front this fascinating documentary. It takes an in-depth look at the true story behind the greatest art heist of the 21st century to date, which involved the theft of two valuable paintings from the Van Gogh Museum in

Amsterdam in December 2002; they were eventually recovered in Naples more than a decade after the crime took place. Graham-Dixon's exploration takes him across Europe where he meets the detectives involved in cracking the case, as well as art experts and prosecutors who reveal exactly what happened to the masterpieces.

**THURSDAY Big Cats BBC1, 8pm**

The final documentary focuses on the scientists who are studying wild cats in more detail than ever before - and the ground-breaking discoveries they are making. Professor Alan Wilson has been researching the cheetah, using hi-tech collars to rewrite what is understood about the fastest animal on land - revealing that its speed is



Death in Paradise, Thursday, BBC1, 9pm

not its greatest weapon. There is also a look at cat conservation, with stories including that of the Iberian lynx. Just five years ago this was considered the rarest cat on the planet. Now, thanks to a captive breeding programme, numbers are increasing in the wild. Last in the series.

**Death in Paradise BBC1, 9pm**

DI Mooney and the team become embroiled in the mysterious world of faith healing when a blind woman dies while being treated by renowned healer Steadman King. When it turns out the victim was poisoned, all eyes turn to Steadman and his cup of holy water. But how could the prime suspect have carried out the deed in front of an audience without anyone noticing? Meanwhile, JP is put through his paces when Pico the police dog joins the team on a week-long trial, and Florence tries to recreate some of Jack's home comforts.

**FRIDAY Costa Del Celebrity Channel 5, 8pm**

Anne Diamond, Nick Owen, Ainsley Harriott, Vicki Michelle and Christine Hamilton end their Spanish adventure at a family-run vineyard during the grape harvest. Last in the series.

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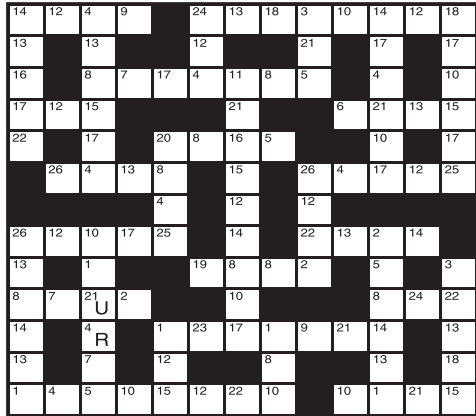


## BRAIN GYM

No.463

## Codeword

Each number in the grid represents a different letter of the alphabet and every letter of the alphabet is used. Use the given letter(s) to the right of the main grid to start you off.



LAST WEEK'S SOLUTION:

1	T	C	O	W	F	D	L	J	E	V	K	H	G
2	Y	U	X	A	I	M	S	R	Q	Z	P	B	N

## Double Crossword

Choose either quick or cryptic clues - both fit the same grid.

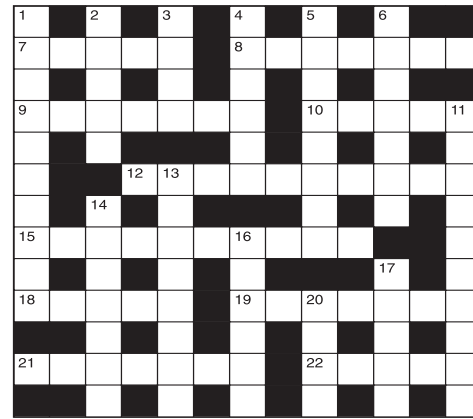
## Cryptic Clues:

## Across

7. Greek character featured in some games (5)
8. Not in the list of actors for "The Exile" (7)
9. & 10Ac. Finish no bar tending, in a way (5,2,2,3)
10. See 9 Across.
12. Strange silent seas are indispensable (10)
15. How the standard is raised at the passing-out parade! (2,4-4)
18. Takes a translation of the poet (5)
19. See 21 Across.
21. & 19Ac. To whom events are crystal clear? (7-7)
22. Join the forces and work in the mess (5)

## Down

1. Presumably it's not for the single-minded conversationalist (6,4)
2. Right time arranged to send to another court (5)
3. Disreputable crowd to go in Scotland (4)
4. Suffering from depression - got up after the doctor is seen (6)
5. Fabulous island found when the ocean's end is changed (8)
6. Arrived with the artist's equipment for pictures (7)
11. Upset when locks have been removed? (10)
13. Has an open-air stall and disposes of the stock (5,3)
14. It provides entertainment at playtime (7)
16. Molecular structure to be of importance (6)
17. See 20 Down.
20. & 17Dn. Fail to make a red card and become discouraged (4,5)



## Quick Clues:

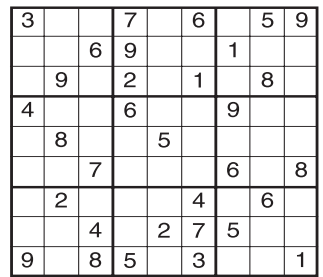
## Across

7. Shove (5)
8. Notice (7)
9. Feat (7)
10. Change (5)
12. Irreverence (10)
15. All-knowing (10)
18. Unmoving (5)
19. Zeal (7)
21. Detergent (7)
22. Circular (5)

## Down

1. Fawning (10)
2. Break out (5)
3. Nought (4)
4. Janitor (6)
5. Thug (8)
6. Inscribed (7)
11. Backward (10)
13. Cheeky (8)
14. Unbeliever (7)
16. Acquaint (6)
17. Fashion (5)
20. Unusual (4)

## Sudoku



Fill in the grid above so that every column, every row and each of the 3x3 boxes contains all the digits from 1 to 9.

## LAST WEEK'S SOLUTIONS &gt;

6	5	4	7	1	2	9	3	8
7	3	9	8	4	5	1	2	6
2	8	1	9	3	6	4	7	5
9	6	2	3	5	4	7	8	1
4	1	3	6	8	7	2	5	9
8	7	5	1	2	9	6	4	3
3	4	6	2	9	8	5	1	7
5	9	8	4	7	1	3	6	2
1	2	7	5	6	3	8	9	4

LAST WEEK'S CROSSWORD SOLUTIONS:  
CRYPTIC - Across: 1 Starboard; 8 Ado; 9 Seat of power; 11 Lactern; 12 Guest; 13 Orient; 15 Prison; 17 Tenet; 18 Reprove; 20 Arctic ocean; 22 Eel; 23 Dissenter. Down: 2 Tie; 3 Broke; 4 Alpine; 5 Dowager; 6 Barber's pole; 7 Constance; 10 Auction sale; 11 Lion-tamer; 14 Noticed; 16 Armies; 19 Probe; 21 Aye. QUICK - Across: 1 Advantage; 8 Nil; 9 Impertinent; 11 Harness; 12 Eerie; 13 Leeway; 15 Stroke; 17 Cruel; 18 Outlast; 20 Lawlessness; 22 Sol; 23 Dangerous. Down: 2 Dim; 3 Nerve; 4 Amidst; 5 Element; 6 Interrogate; 7 Blameless; 10 Perpetually; 11 Holocaust; 14 Allowed; 16 Screen; 19 Taste; 21 Sou.

## Quiz

1. Which London theatre was founded in 1818 as the Coburg?
2. Who described the poorest of the poor as the lumpenproletariat?
3. Which Lost Generation novelist wrote Manhattan Transfer?
4. What is the administrative centre of Dorset?
5. Who wrote Lord of the Rings?
6. In Greek mythology, what were the fifty daughters of Doris called?
7. From what is the antibiotic melittin extracted?
8. Who, according to the Bible, said 'Ecce Homo'?
9. What does the soya bean product TVP stand for?
10. In which year was the cricket World Cup first held?

## Last week's solutions:

Quiz: 1 Old Moore's Almanac; 2 CS gas; 3 Eugene Ionesco; 4 Washington DC; 5 Radio 5 Live; 6 Sinclair Lewis; 7 Cardinal Wolsey; 8 Harare; 9 Louis XVI; 10 A beetle. Niner: SINGAPORE

## Niner

Each number from 1 to 9 represents a different letter. Solve the clues and insert the letters in the appropriate squares to discover a word which uses all nine letters.

163276  
9245696  
5648

gives a cat,  
gives a type of cat,  
gives cat food.

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---

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# PROPERTY

YOUR WEEKLY  
GUIDE TO HOME  
BUYING AND  
LETTING

## Three-bed dormer bungalow lies in a sought-after area

**This immaculately presented and deceptively spacious three-bedroomed dormer bungalow in Fenn Rise, Willenhall, lies in a sought-after cul-de-sac on the ever popular Summer Hayes Estate.**

It is for sale through L&S Prestige Estates at £180,000 with no chain.

The accommodation comprises a spacious entrance hallway, a lounge, a kitchen/diner with integrated appliances, a ground floor bedroom and a family bathroom.

To the first floor are two double bedrooms. The property has double glazing, gas central heating, a workshop to the rear, front and rear gardens and off-road parking.

The property is superbly situated for access to a wide range of local amenities, popular local schools and excellent transport links. In more detail, a paved driveway leads to the front entrance door with a glazed side panel. The entrance hallway has floor-to-ceiling built-in storage cupboards, a window to the side and an open plan staircase.

The lounge has a feature fireplace with a living flame gas fire, a marble hearth and a wooden surround, a window to the rear and sliding doors through to the ground floor bedroom.

Being spacious and an L-shape, the kitchen/diner is comprehensively fitted with a range of wall and base units, complementary worktops over, patio doors to the rear garden and French doors to the front.

Ground floor bedroom one has a window overlooking the front of the property.

The ground floor bathroom has a pedestal wash hand basin, a low level WC, a panelled bath with shower over and a built-in storage cupboard.

Upstairs, bedroom two has views over the front of the property, while bedroom three has views towards the rear.

Outside, the workshop is accessed in the rear garden, having strip lights, power and lighting.

To the front is a paved driveway, flanked by lawn and a shrub border. The rear is fully enclosed with a paved patio, lawn and a brick dwarf wall with an additional raised lawn.

WILLENHALL £180,000



### TO VIEW THIS PROPERTY

AGENT: L&S Prestige Estates

TEL: 01902 606595

EMAIL: [info@prestige-estatesuk.com](mailto:info@prestige-estatesuk.com)

### KEY FEATURES

Extended semi-detached bungalow

3 bedrooms

Extended kitchen/diner

Workshop at rear

Off-road parking



Bobby Singh, Esq  
MBA FCCA

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## Four-bedroomed detached family home on edge of town centre

**BLOXWICH**  
**£239,950**

>>>

Within walking distance of Bloxwich town centre, this modern detached family home in Park Road, Bloxwich, Walsall, is extended and very well presented.

Ideally located, it is for sale through Webbs Estate Agents at £239,950.

It is situated in a private gated development on the edge of Bloxwich town centre, being close to good schools, local amenities and bus routes.

Its accommodation briefly comprises a through hallway, a lounge/diner, a kitchen, a dining room, a guest WC, four bedrooms, an en-suite to the master bedroom and a family bathroom. Outside there is an integral garage, driveway and landscaped gardens.

Call Webbs Estate Agents on 01922 663399 or visit [www.webbsestateagents.co.uk](http://www.webbsestateagents.co.uk)



## Two-bed terrace is ideal investment

**WALSALL**  
**£135,000**

An ideal first-time buy or investment purchase, this two-bedroomed terraced house on the popular Turnberry Estate in Astbury Close, Walsall, is for sale through Goodchilds Estate Agents at £135,000 with no chain.

This property has ample off-road parking, a refitted kitchen and front and rear gardens.

In brief its accommodation comprises a canopy porch, an entrance hall, a kitchen, a spacious rear lounge/dining room, two good-sized bedrooms and a bathroom/WC.

The rear lounge/dining room has aluminium sliding patio doors to the rear garden and a staircase off to the first floor.

For further information, or to book a viewing, call Goodchilds on 01922 711444.

## Chartered Surveyors



## Estate Agents

**EPC: E**

**VICTORIA TERRACE, WALSALL**

- . 3 Storey Victorian House
- . Gym, Sauna, GCH
- . Shower Room, Jacuzzi Whirlpool
- . Kitchen, Family Room
- . Dining Room, Rear Reception
- . Downstairs wc off, Bathroom
- . 3 Bedrooms, Garage

**£1350pcm - plus fees**

**EPC: D**

**HOLY TRINITY VICARAGE, SHORT HEATH**

- . Detached House
- . Lounge
- . Kitchen
- . Dining Room
- . Four Bedrooms
- . Bathroom
- . Garage

**£775pcm - plus fees**

**EPC: B**

**BIRD STREET, DUDLEY**

- . Brand New
- . Semi-Detached House
- . Lounge, Fitted Kitchen
- . Three Bedrooms
- . Family Bathroom, En-Suite
- . Cloakroom, GCH, UPVC DG
- . Rear Garden, Driveway

**£700pcm - plus fees**

**EPC: E**

**THE SCHOOL HOUSE, WALSALL**

- . Detached Bungalow
- . Three Bedrooms
- . Lounge
- . Rear Lobby
- . Kitchen
- . Shower Room
- . Fore and Rear Gardens

**£700pcm - plus fees**

**EPC: C**

**SPINDLE TREE RISE, WILLENHALL**

- . Terrace House
- . Living Room
- . Kitchen
- . Three Bedrooms
- . Bathroom
- . Gas Central Heating
- . UPVC Double Glazing

**£595pcm - plus fees**

**EPC: E**

**GIPSY LANE, WILLENHALL**

- . End Terrace House
- . Lounge & Dining Room
- . Kitchen & Bathroom
- . Three Bedrooms
- . Parking & Garden
- . UPVC DG, GCH
- . SECOND MONTH RENT FREE

**£495pcm - plus fees**

**EPC: D**

**HIGH VIEW, WALSALL**

- . First Floor Flat
- . Over 55's Only
- . Opportunity To Buy
- . Communal Laundry
- . Lounge / Dining Room
- . Kitchen, Bathroom
- . Two Bedrooms, EZ Heating

**£495pcm - plus fees**

**EPC: D**

**WOLVERHAMPTON ROAD WEST, BENTLEY**

- . Three Bed Semi Detached
- . Lounge
- . Kitchen/ Dining Room
- . Bathroom
- . Driveway & Gardens
- . UPVC Double Glazing
- . Gas Central Heating

**£475pcm - plus fees**

**EPC: D**

**WALSALL ROAD, GREAT WYRLEY**

- . First Floor Flat Above Shop
- . Lounge, Kitchen
- . One Bedroom
- . Bathroom
- . UPVC Double Glazing
- . Gas Central Heating
- . Patio Area To Rear

**£450pcm - plus fees**

**EPC: D**

**PRIMLEY AVENUE, WALSALL**

- . Semi Detached House
- . Through Lounge
- . Kitchen
- . Two Bedrooms
- . Bathroom
- . GCH, UPVC DG
- . Newly Decorated Throughout

**£450pcm - plus fees**

**N/A**

**VICTORIA TERRACE, WALSALL**

- . Ground Floor Flat
- . One Bedroom
- . Storage Heating
- . Lounge
- . Kitchen
- . Bathroom
- . No Parking

**£375pcm - plus fees**

**EPC: D**

**CHURCH STREET, DARLASTON**

- . Ground Floor Flat
- . One Bedroom
- . Lounge
- . Kitchen
- . Shower Room
- . UPVC Double Glazing
- . Electric Heating

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**Well-presented  
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**WALSALL**  
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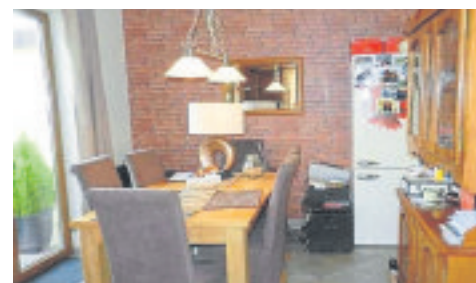


Being attractively presented throughout, this three-bedroomed end of terrace house in Roebuck Road, Walsall, is a spacious property that is ideal for family life.

Thought to date from the Post-war period, it is for sale through Marrior & Co Estate Agents at £135,000 with no chain. It is competitively priced by motivated sellers in order to gain an early sale.

With gas central heating and double glazing, its accommodation briefly comprises of an enclosed storm porch, an entrance hall/stairs, a front lounge, a rear kitchen/diner, three good-sized bedrooms, a bathroom, a separate WC, a driveway and a good-sized rear garden.

To book a viewing to see if this is the ideal next home for you, contact Marrior & Co Estate Agents on 01922 404446.



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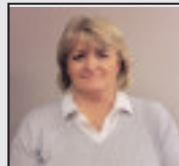
\*based on 2016 figures from Essential Information  
Group for number of lots sold for auctioneers based in  
the West Midlands







Paul Marrion - Partner



Kathy Marrion - Partner



**St Annes Road**  
Willenhall

- Mid Terraced house
- Gas centrally heated
- PVCu double glazed
- Two Reception Rooms, Fitted kitchen
- 2 bedrooms, Upstairs Bathroom/WC
- Rear Garden
- SORRY DSS, PETS OR SMOKERS
- ?180 reference fee applies

**£520**



**Hollybank Avenue**  
Essington

- Extended Semi Detached House
- Three Bedrooms
- Sought after cul de sac location
- Double Glazing
- Gas Central Heating (where specified)
- Front Kitchen
- Rear Lounge/Diner
- Large Tandem Garage

**£154,950**



**Lydford Road**  
Bloxwich

- Detached Bungalow
- Immaculately Presented
- Gas Central Heating, PVCu double glazing.
- 2 Bedrooms, Lounge,
- Breakfast kitchen, Conservatory
- Shower Room,
- Tandem Garage Driveway
- Gardens

**£249,950**



**Hawbush Road**  
Walsall

- Extended Semi-Detached House
- Double Glazing & Gas Central Heating
- Rear Lounge, Front Dining Room
- Three Bedrooms
- Family Bathroom
- Off Road Parking & Rear Garden
- NO ONWARD CHAIN
- Rear Garden

**£120,000**



**Gurnard Close**  
Coppice Farm

- Semi detached house
- Gas centrally heated
- PVCu double glazed
- Lounge, kitchen
- 2 bedrooms, bathroom/WC
- Garage
- Driveway
- Gardens

**£150,000**



**Stoney Lane**  
Bloxwich

- Traditional Detached Home
- Gas Central Heating, Double Glazed (W/S)
- Rear Lounge, Front Dining Room
- Family Room, Kitchen
- Conservatory, Guest WC
- 3 Bedrooms, Bathroom
- Garage, Large Driveway
- Mature Gardens

**£365,000**



**Church Street**  
Bloxwich

- End town house
- Gas centrally heated
- PVCu double glazed (where specified)
- Through Lounge, Dining Kitchen
- 3 Bedrooms, Bathroom/WC
- Front Garden
- NO ONWARD CHAIN
- Rear Gardens

**£100,000**

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**Cliveden Avenue**  
Aldridge

- Semi detached house
- Gas centrally heated
- PVCu double glazed
- Lounge, Kitchen/Diner
- 3 bedrooms
- Bathroom/WC
- Driveway
- Gardens

**£250,000**



**Odell Crescent**  
Bloxwich

- Immaculately presented end terraced house
- Two bedrooms
- Lounge
- Gas Central Heating, Double Glazed
- Re-Fitted Breakfast Kitchen
- Off Road Parking
- Rear Garden
- No Onward Chain

**£142,999**



**Selsdon Road**  
Turnberry

- Detached house
- Gas centrally heated
- PVCu double glazed
- Lounge, kitchen, conservatory
- 2 bedrooms, shower room/WC
- Garage, carport
- Driveway
- Gardens

**£189,950**



**Darlaston Road**  
Pleck

- Semi detached house
- Gas centrally heated
- PVCu double glazed
- Lounge/dining room, kitchen
- 2 bedrooms, shower room/WC
- Workshop
- Parking
- Gardens

**£139,950**



**Penmire Grove**  
Walsall

- Three Storey Town House
- PVCu double glazing & Gas Central Heating
- Fitted Kitchen
- Rear Lounge/Diner
- Three excellent sized Bedrooms
- (master with en-suite)
- Family Bathroom
- Rear Garden

**£185,000**



**Appledore Court**  
Walsall

- Second floor flat
- PVCu double glazing & gas central heating
- Lounge, Kitchen
- One Bedroom
- Bathroom
- Shared parking to Rear.
- SORRY NO DSS, PETS OR SMOKERS
- ?180 reference fees apply

**£395**



**Mattesley Court**  
Bloxwich

- Over 55 years of age Development
- 40% Ownership
- Second floor apartment
- Residents lounge, restaurant
- Hair salon, shop, laundry room
- 2 bedrooms, wet room/WC
- Fitted kitchen, lounge
- Ample parking and communal gardens

**£35,000**



**Lichfield Road**  
Willenhall

- End town house
- Gas centrally heated
- PVCu double glazed
- 2 reception rooms, kitchen
- 3 bedrooms, bathroom/WC
- Gardens, garage
- NO ONWARD CHAIN
- Parking

**£130,000**



**Church Road**  
Pelsall

- Mid town house
- Gas centrally heated
- PVCu double glazed
- Lounge, dining kitchen
- 2 bedrooms, shower room/WC
- Parking, gardens
- NO ONWARD CHAIN
- Gardens

**£135,000**



**Roebuck Road**  
Walsall

- Semi detached house
- Gas centrally heated
- PVCu double glazed
- Front Lounge,
- Rear kitchen/diner
- 3 bedrooms,
- Bathroom, Separate WC
- Driveway, Rear gardens

**£135,000**



**Buxton Road**  
Lower Farm

- Semi detached house
- Gas centrally heated
- PVCu double glazed
- Lounge, dining room, kitchen, Ground floor shower room
- 3 bedrooms, bathroom separate WC
- Garage and gardens
- NO ONWARD CHAIN
- Must Be Viewed

**£135,000**



**Woodbridge Close**  
Turnberry

- Detached house
- Gas centrally heated
- PVCu double glazed
- Lounge, dining kitchen, conservatory
- 3 bedrooms, bathroom/WC
- Garage, utility
- NO ONWARD CHAIN
- Gardens

**£229,950**





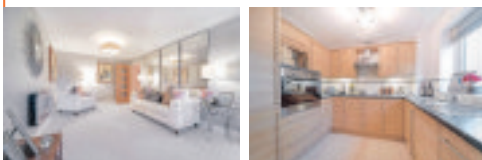
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**Broadway North, Walsall**

- Over 60 Retirement Apartment
- New Build
- Ground Floor
- One Bedroom
- Walk in Shower Room
- Communal Lounge
- Integrated Appliances
- Juliet Balcony
- Outside Patio Area
- Next to Arboretum

£925 PCM



**Broadway, Walsall**

- Two Bedroom Apartment
- New Build
- Communal Hallway with Lift
- Kitchen/Lounge
- Family Bathroom
- Double Glazing
- Allocated Parking Space
- Gas Central Heating
- No DHSS
- Rating:88

£595 PCM



**Terret Close, Walsall**

- Two Bedroom Apartment
- Town Centre Location
- Lounge
- Ensuite
- Allocated Parking
- Communal Entrance
- Electric Heating
- Sorry No DHSS, Pets or Smokers
- Rating:54

£525 PCM



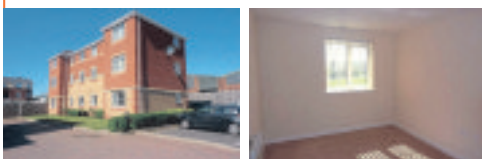
- Ripon road, Walsall**
- ●●●●NEW BUILD●●●●
  - Two Bedroom Detached
  - Bungalow
  - Front Off Road Parking
  - Rear Garden
  - Rating -TBC

£650 PCM



- Selsdon Road, Bloxwich**
- Two bedroom end of terrace
  - Lounge
  - Newly Fitted Kitchen
  - Conservatory
  - Extensive Garden to Rear
  - EPC 69

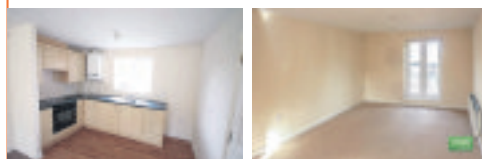
£625 PCM



**Thornbury Road, Walsall**

- One Bedroom
- Entrance Hallway
- Open Plan Kitchen/Lounge
- Bathroom with Shower
- Rating: 69
- Sorry No DHSS, Pets or Smokers

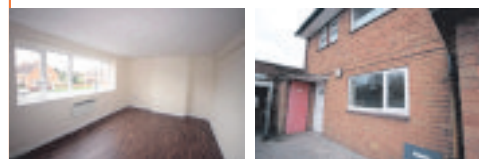
£450 PCM



**Walker Road, Bloxwich**

- Two Bedroom Ground Floor Apartment
- Open Plan Kitchen
- Fitted Kitchen
- Open Plan Lounge
- Family Bathroom
- Gas central heating
- Double Glazing
- Allocated Parking
- Rating:87

£475 PCM



**Cresswell Crescent, Walsall**

- Three Bedroom Flat
- Large Lounge
- Large Kitchen/Diner
- Family Bathroom
- Newly Fitted Kitchen/Diner
- DHSS Accepted
- Electric Heating
- Rating:54

£450 PCM



- St Davids Place, Bloxwich**
- Three Bedroom Semi
  - Entrance Porch
  - Dining Room
  - Fitted Kitchen
  - Off Road Parking
  - Sorry no DHSS Pets

£550 PCM



- Stephenson Avenue, Walsall**
- Three Bedroom Mid Terrace Property
  - Double Glazing
  - Gas Central Heating
  - Lounge
  - Kitchen
  - EPC 74

£550 PCM



- Thornbury Road, Walsall**
- IMMACULATE ONE BEDROOM APARTMENT
  - Secure Communal Entrance
  - Private Entrance Hall
  - Lounge
  - Fitted Kitchen

£450 PCM



- Harrison Street, Walsall**
- Two Bedroom First Floor Flat
  - Open Plan Kitchen & Lounge
  - Bedroom
  - Bathroom
  - Electric Heating
  - Double Glazing

£350.00 PCM



- Fisher Road, Bloxwich**
- One Bedroom Ground
  - Off Road Parking
  - Enclosed Rear Garden
  - Double Glazing
  - Rating: 69
  - DHSS Accepted, No Pets or Smokers

£400 PCM

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NEW

**CLAYHANGER  
LANGDALE CLOSE**



- Stunning Detached
- Through Hall, Lounge
- Dining Room, Kitchen
- Utility Room, WC
- 4 Bedrooms, En-Suite

- Bathroom
- Gardens, Driveway
- Viewing Essential

**\$279,950**

REDUCED

**ESSINGTON  
HOUGH WAY**



- Modern Apartment
- Second Floor
- Open Plan Lounge/Diner
- Bathroom

- 2 Bedrooms
- 2 Allocated Parking
- Viewing Essential

**\$110,000 OFFERS OVER**

NEW

**PELSALL  
ASHTREE ROAD**



- Traditional Semi
- Lounge
- Dining Room
- Refitted Kitchen
- Refitted Bathroom

- 3 Double Bedrooms
- No Chain
- Viewing Recommended

**\$130,000 Offers Over**

NEW

**BLOXWICH  
ROEBUCK CLOSE**



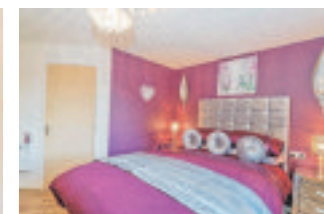
- Semi Detached
- 2 Reception Rooms
- Kitchen, Sun Room
- Utility Room, WC

- 3 Bedrooms, Bathroom
- Driveway
- Utility Room
- NO CHAIN

**\$129,950**

NEW

**WILLENHALL  
SQUIRES GROVE**



- Ground Floor Apartment
- Through Hallway
- Lounge
- Breakfast Kitchen
- Ensuite, Bathroom

- 2 Bedrooms
- Parking, Garage
- Viewing Recommended

**\$109,950**

NEW

**BLOXWICH  
VICTORIA AVENUE**



- Popular Location
- Hallway, WC
- Lounge/Diner
- Breakfast Kitchen

- 3 Bedrooms, Bathroom
- Gardens
- Ideal First Time Buyer
- Early Viewing Advised

**\$95,000 OFFERS OVER**

NEW

**BLOXWICH  
FIELD ROAD**



- Detached Family Home
- Hallway, Lounge
- Dining Room
- Conservatory
- Kitchen, Utility Room

- 4 Bedrooms, En-Suite
- Bathroom
- Driveway, Garage
- Viewing Recommended

**\$229,950**

**SSTC  
Similar Required**

**BLOXWICH  
BELL TOWER CLOSE**



- Modern Apartment
- Hallway, Lounge
- Kitchen
- 2 Bedrooms

- Bathroom
- Communal Grounds
- Parking
- No Chain

**\$80,000 Offers Over**

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# auction HOUSE

Birmingham &  
Black Country

## Estate House, Darwall Street, Walsall WS1 1DA

### 0121 289 3838

## Auction

Monday 5th  
February 2018  
at 6.00pm Precisely

Banks's Stadium, Walsall  
Football Club, Bescot  
Crescent, Walsall, WS1 4SA

LOT 1

**Woden Road West  
Wednesbury**

**20th, 24th, 31st January all at 10am**



●Guide Price £55,000 PLUS

Situated in a popular residential area next to the black country route this three bedroom semi detached property is ideally suited towards an investor. The property is in need of modernisation throughout. Disclaimer The seller is a charity and is therefore prohibited from selling a property to anyone who is an employee or board member of the seller, or is the spouse/civil partner or close relative of a board member, the spouse/civil partner of an employee, a donor of land to the seller, an agent on their behalf or institutions or companies controlled by such people.

LOT 2

**Broadwaters Road  
Wednesbury**

**24th, 31st January all at 10:30am**



●Guide Price £47,500 PLUS

This three bedroom semi detached property is in need of modernisation throughout. The property offers a lot of potential and would ideally be suited towards an investor. (Prospective purchasers are advised to check the mining report). Disclaimer The seller is a charity and is therefore prohibited from selling a property to anyone who is an employee or board member of the seller, or is the spouse/civil partner or close relative of a board member, the spouse/civil partner of an employee, a donor of land to the seller, an agent on their behalf or institutions or companies controlled by such people.

LOT 3

**Beech Road  
Erdington**

**By Appointment through auctioneers**



●Guide Price £80,000

This two bedroom end terraced property is ideally situated in a popular residential area within Erdington. With all amenities close at hand the property comprises: Tenure Freehold Ground Floor Living room and Kitchen First Floor Two bedrooms and Bathroom Outside Front and Rear Garden. The auctioneer is yet to inspect the property.

LOT 4

**Glenavon Road  
Birmingham**

**By appointment through auctioneers**



●Guide Price £77,500

This one bedroom ground floor maisonette is ideally located within a popular residential area. This property is suited towards an investor with little modernisation required to the property. Tenure Leasehold Accommodation Lounge with door leading to garden, Kitchen, Bedroom One. Services Interested parties are requested to make their own enquiries to the relevant authorities as to the availability of services. Local Authority Birmingham City Council Solicitors AH Legals, AH Legals, Grant Hall, Parsons Green, St Ives, PE27 4AA, Tel: 0345 305 2543 Additional Fees Administration Charge - £714 inc VAT payable on exchange of contracts. Disbursements - Please see the legal pack for any disbursements listed that may become payable by the purchaser on completion.

LOT 5

**Churchill Road  
Walsall**

**24th, 31st January all at 11am**



●Guide Price £75,000 PLUS

Offering tremendous potential this semi detached property affords excellent living accommodation with the added benefit of a large corner plot. With majority upvc double glazing and electric heating the conveniently situated property is within a short distance of motorway and town centre and in brief comprises: Ground Floor Enclosed Porch, Reception Hall, Lounge, Breakfast Kitchen and Utility. First Floor Two Double Bedrooms and Bathroom Outside Large Fore Garden With Ample Off Street Parking With Access To Good Sized Garage Together With Neat Enclosed Rear Garden. Viewings: 24th, 31st January all at 11am

LOT 6

**Woodside Close  
Walsall**

**The site is open for viewings.**



●Guide Price £100,000 PLUS

Situated in a popular residential area in Park Hall, Walsall this freehold building plot benefits from having planning permission (subject to conditions, Application Number: 15/1517) for the construction of one Detached house. With all amenities close at hand the proposed layout is as follows: Tenure Freehold Ground Floor Lounge, Kitchen/Diner, W.C. First Floor Bedroom one with en suite, Bedroom two and Bathroom Second Floor Bedroom three with Ensuite.

LOT 7

**Churchfield Avenue  
Tipton**

**By appointment through Auctioneers**



●Guide Price £30,000 PLUS

A spacious 3 bedroom first floor flat with gas central heating and being mostly double glazed. The property comes with the benefit of car parking at the rear. In brief detail comprising: Tenure Leasehold Accommodation Hall, Lounge/Dining Room 4.83m x 3.78m with two upvc double glazed windows, electric fire with surround and door to balcony, Kitchen 3.20m x 2.68m with double glazed window, fitted units, single drainer sink unit. Bedroom One 3.80m x 3.70m with double glazed window, radiator, airing cupboard with Worcester Combi Boiler, Bedroom Two 3.80m x 3.20m with double glazed window and radiator, Bedroom Three 2.90m x 2.40m with single glazed window and radiator. Re-Fitted Shower Room with double glazed window, heated towel rail, shower cubicle, vanity wash hand basin. Separate W.C. with low level w.c.

LOT 8

**Buildwas Close  
Walsall**

**24th Jan and 31st January at 1:30am**



●Guide Price £59,000 PLUS

Situated on the very popular Moseley estate in Bloxwich this three bedroom semi detached property is ideally suited towards an investor. The property is in need of modernisation throughout and with all amenities at hand it comprises: Tenure Freehold Ground Floor Lounge (4.8m x 3.9m), Kitchen (4.2m x 2.8m) and Utility. First Floor Bedroom One (3.9m x 3.1m), Bedroom two (2.8m x 2.3m), Bedroom three (2.6m x 1.8m) and Bathroom with separate W.C. Outside At the front of the property there is an overgrown drive providing potential for off road parking. At the rear of the property there is a garden.

●Guides are provided as an indication of each seller's minimum expectation. They are not necessarily figures which a property will sell for and may change at any time prior to the auction. Each property will be offered subject to a Reserve (a figure below which the Auctioneer cannot sell the property during the auction) which we expect will be set within the Guide Range or no more than 10% above a single figure Guide



# L & S PRESTIGE ESTATES

46 High Road, Lane Head, Willenhall, WV12 4JQ



37

The Chronicle Thursday, January 18, 2018

## UPPER PENN

### GREAT HALL GROVE, W'TON

Five Bedroom Executive Detached, Lounge & Separate Study, Modern Fitted Kitchen/ Diner, Conservatory, Guest W.C, Family Bathroom, En-Suite to both Master & Bedroom 2, Office/ Den, Double Garage & Off Road Parking

OIEO £650,000

## ESSINGTON

### HOUGH WAY, ESSINGTON

Executive Five Bed Detached, Guest W.C, Lounge, Modern Fitted Kitchen/Diner, Separate Utility Room, Two En-Suite Shower Rooms, Refitted Family Shower Room, Front & Rear Gardens, Driveway & Garage

OIEO £340,000

## SUMMER HAYES

### FENN RISE, WILLENHALL

Extended Three Bed Semi Detached Bungalow, Spacious Lounge, Extended Kitchen/Diner, Ground Floor Bedroom, Ground Floor Family Bathroom, Two First Floor Bedrooms, D/ Glazing & C/Heating

£180,000

## ESSINGTON

### NEW STREET, ESSINGTON

Three Bed End Terrace, Two Reception Rooms, Fitted Kitchen, Utility Room/Ground Floor W.C, First Floor Bathroom, Second Floor Study, D/ Glazing & C/Heating, Rear Garden, Viewing Advised, Great F.T.B.

OIRO £129,995

## DARLASTON

### KING EDWARD STREET, D'TON

Two Bedroom Victorian Style Semi, Two Reception Rooms, Fitted Kitchen, Ground Floor Family Bathroom, G/C Heating & D/ Glazing, Private Rear Garden, Off Road Parking Potential, Ideal F.T.B Or B.T.L

OIEO £110,000

## NEW INVENTION

### SQUIRES GROVE, WILLENHALL

Two Bed Second Floor Apartment, Lounge, Fitted Kitchen, En-Suite To Master Bedroom, Family Bathroom, D/ Glazing & Electric Heating, Allocated & Visitors Parking, Viewing Advised, Great FTB Or BTL Investment

OIEO £90,000

## SHORT HEATH

### EZEKIEL LANE, WILLENHALL

Two Bed Mid Terrace, Spacious Lounge/Diner, Fitted Kitchen, Family Bathroom, D/ Glazing & C/Heating, Rear Garden, Great BTL Or FTB, Viewing Advised!

CASH OFFERS £80,000

## NEW INVENTION

### BRERETON ROAD, WILLENHALL

Two Bed Mid Town House, Through Lounge/Diner, Fitted Kitchen, Useful Side Storage, Two Double Bedrooms, Family Bathroom With Shower, D/ Glazing & C/Heating, Off Road Parking

£550 PCM

## LODGE FARM

### RHYS THOMAS CL, WILLENHALL

Three Bedroom Mid Town House, Spacious Lounge/ Diner, Fitted Kitchen, Family Bathroom With Shower, Separate W.C, D/ Glazing & C/Heating, Front & Rear Gardens, Viewing Advised!

£550 PCM

## WILLENHALL

### STAFFORD ST, WILLENHALL

Spacious Two Bed Flat Being Set Over Two Floors, Lounge, Modern Fitted Kitchen, Bathroom, Two Generous Double Bedrooms, Double Glazing And Gas Central Heating, Close To Willenhall Town Centre

£450 PCM

## WILLENHALL

### ACORN MEWS, WILLENHALL

Two Bed Second Floor Apartment, Open Plan Lounge/ Kitchen, Family Bathroom, D/ Glazing & Electric Heating, Allocated Parking, Close To Willenhall Centre, Viewing Advised

£450 PCM

## WILLENHALL

### LOWER LICHFIELD ST, WILLENHALL

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£350 PCM

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The effectiveness consultancy Benchmarking recently analysed what happens when companies include press advertising in their media mix.

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In the automotive sector they reviewed companies that ranged from the big spending German goliaths of the industry to medium sized independent carmakers.

And they discovered that by adding newspaper advertising to their campaigns, they cranked up their effectiveness by over 70%.

## Increased effectiveness using newspapers

Retail	Automotive	Finance
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So, whatever the size your business or budget, get motoring into newspapers.

For the full story and more details:  
[newsworks.org.uk/effectiveness](http://newsworks.org.uk/effectiveness)



## Index

- 1 Family
- 2 Leisure Time
- 3 Home & Services
- 4 Pets & Animals
- 5 Business & Farming
- 6 Property
- 7 Jobs
- 8 Motoring
- 9 Local Information
- 10 Personals

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### what's on

### Antique Fairs

**VINTAGE ANTIQUE / Collectables Fair**, Coven Memorial Hall WY9 5DL, Sunday 21 Jan, 10-3. Karen 01384 277373 / 07938 123040.

**mind, body & soul**

### Car Boot Sales

**QUALITY INDOOR BOOT SALE**  
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Call Dawn 07973 705739 to book a table.

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**ANY AMOUNT COLLECTED!**

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**ADAM DESIGN**, Building Plans. Drawn and submitted to council. Tel: 01902 620200 / 07841 654037. Email: adamdesign@sky.com

**BUILDING** Plans: Prepared/Submitted. K J Bradley 01902 373248 07792 165767. www.plans4u.co.uk

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www.tadplumbingandheatingwolverhampton.co.uk

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SINGLE ITEMS TO FULL LOADS.  
LOCAL OR DISTANCE. FULLY INSURED.  
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Rubber Roofing  
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Prompt delivery / collection  
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Brought to you by Express & Star

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Saturday half day.  
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**WOLVERHAMPTON SKIP HIRE**  
MINI, MIDI & BUILDERS SKIPS WITH DOORS  
Established 26 years  
Call:  
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**t.v. / home entertainment**

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Any TV Repairs. Digital aerials, sky, CCTV cameras. TV wall mounts and TV set ups. 07850 330251.

**4 Pets & Animals**

**Equestrian Corner**

**ALL READERS** are advised to check if Horses, Donkeys or Ponies have the required Passport information.

**Guns & Dogs**

**NOTICE TO ADVERTISERS**  
Advertisers must ensure that they meet all necessary legal requirements for owning and using guns.

**Pets Corner**

**NOTICE TO READERS**  
Please be aware that when purchasing a puppy there are some simple guidelines you can follow to ensure that you are not purchasing from a Puppy Farmer:  
1. Try to ensure you visit the puppy whilst it is still with its Mother.  
2. Do not arrange to collect a puppy from any other location than that of the breeder.  
3. Ensure that you are given any KC documentation, if pedigree. Whilst Midland News Association publications take great care to avoid publication of advertisements from Puppy Farmers we cannot accept any liability should readers purchase from this kind of establishment.

**GREYHOUNDS MAKE WONDERFUL PETS**  
All neutered, inoculated and microchipped.  
Call 01902 291080 or visit www.gtwolverhampton.co.uk  
Greyhound Trust Wolverhampton  
@gtwolverhampton

**5 Business & Farming**

**Business Opportunities**

**READERS** are recommended to take appropriate professional advice before entering into any obligations.

**6 Property**

**Overseas Property**

**NOTICE TO READERS**  
Readers are advised to seek independent legal advice before entering into any financial commitments.

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**Yes! HOME BUYERS**  
THE EASY WAY TO SELL YOUR HOUSE

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Free Valuation? Yes! No Fees? Yes! Any Location? Yes!  
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What more - we buy in any condition  
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**ACT NOW!**  
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**MERRIDALE, WOLVERHAMPTON**  
50+ Independent living, 1 and 2 bed flats available, please come along to the open day on Wednesday 17th January 2018 between 9am and 12 noon. The Oaks, Merridale Road, WV3 9RZ  
£414.17  
01902 378630

**NOTICE TO READERS**  
Readers are advised to seek independent legal advice before entering into any financial commitments/contracts.

**NOTICE TO READERS**  
It is an offence under the Accommodation Agencies Act 1953, for an Agency to charge a fee simply for the registration of your requirements and/or supplying particulars of premises to let.

**J9 Accommodation**  
**NO DEPOSIT**  
★MOVE IN TODAY★  
Studios from £90pw\*  
Rooms from £65pw\*  
\*Includes Most Bills  
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**EXPERIENCED / QUALIFIED PLUMBER** required for nationwide work, mainly the shopfitting / catering industry for first and second fix installation work. Competitive rates of pay & overtime available. Vehicle & phone also supplied. Call 01922 454687 or email details to: bookings@assuredlimited.co.uk

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**SUPPORT WORKERS £8.00ph**  
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**FULL TIME & PART TIME POSITIONS AVAILABLE**

Apply today:  
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**PLASTIC FABRICATORS**  
with experience of industrial equipment manufacture  
Steel Fabricators interested in re-training considered.

**GRP LAMINATORS**  
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Required for Immediate Start  
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**PLANT FITTER VACANCIES**  
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Yard based Plant Engineers required at the  
**West Midlands Depot** and the  
**Cheshire Depot**  
Mobile Engineers (van based) to cover the West Midlands area and the Cheshire area.  
£12.68 per hour, overtime paid after 45 hours per week.  
Company Pension.  
If you would like to join one of the fastest growing Plant Hire Companies in the country, please contact Head Office on 01270 766421  
or send your CV to  
w.roberts@scottshire.co.uk for more information.

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Experienced, trustworthy individual required to be part of accounts team in fast expanding business.  
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**ACCOUNTANT / BOOK-KEEPER - P/T-Permanent**  
20 hours/week (flexible)  
Qualified either by formal training or by experience  
Must have some experience of producing accounts up to at least trial balance - can be overseen by Turnock's external accountants  
Focus on cash flows, banking & forecasting for £1.5M T/O & growing business. Capable of using initiative to identify problems & discuss with the MD  
Experience in a manufacturing environment preferred.  
Experience of payroll & pensions.  
Dealing with banks, HMRC & Companies House via the internet  
Reply to Mr G Stone at  
Reaymer Close, Walsall, WS2 7QZ  
or email sales@turnock.co.uk

**8 Motoring**

**DALLAS**  
Van hire ..  
Wide variety of vans:  
Small Large Lutons  
Tippers Flats  
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**HAVE YOU CHECKED** your advertisement today? We would respectfully remind advertisers that it is their responsibility to inform the publishers of any mistakes or inaccuracies on the first day of publication.



**AUDI A4 S LINE TDI AUTO MULTI TRONIC**  
2012 reg.  
4 door saloon.  
Grey.  
6 months MoT.  
FSH, 133,000 miles  
Excellent condition.  
Photo on request.  
£8,850 ono.  
0755 7979582.

**EXCELLENT CONDITION**

**NISSAN NOTE AUTOMATIC ACENTA 1.6 2010**

Silver 116,000 miles, electric windows, electric mirrors, air con, FSH, MoT and Serviced till November 18, used daily very reliable.

£2,250 ono  
07875 139910.



**VW BEETLE CABRIOLET**  
2.0 Automatic Petrol.  
Silver with black top and full black leather interior, in excellent condition throughout. 12 months MoT, 2008 plate, 42,000 miles with FSH.  
£4,250.

To view this great little car telephone  
07809 562007.

**Vehicles Wanted**

**CROWN MOTORS** guarantee best price for your unwanted cars/vans. 07903 549849, buyer will call.

**Vehicle Hire**

**W.T.R. VAN HIRE** Connects, Transits, Lutons with Tail lifts, pick-ups Open seven days.  
01902 457002 / 01384 79090.

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**VW PASSAT ESTATE**  
2006

2.0 Blue Motion  
89k miles, FSH, parking sensors, cruise control, heated seats, full MoT.  
£6,000  
07788 962186 Walsall area.

**Cars Under £1500**

**LOW MILEAGE**

**CHEVROLET TACUMA**  
5 seater, 55 plate, blue, only 52,000 miles, four new tyres.  
£500.  
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**NFL MOTORCYCLE TRAINING**  
CBT to full licence, Call 8am - 9pm for deals 01902 494422.

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**OUR ADVERTISERS** are reminded that it is an offence under the Scrap Metal Dealers Act 2013 to buy scrap cars/metal for cash.

**MCB**  
TOP PRICES PAID FOR ALL SCRAP CARS, VANS, BIKES, CLASSICS  
Tel: 01902 408176  
1000's of parts available at all times  
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MOBILE MECHANIC

- MOT'S
- Servicing
- Tyres
- Diagnostics
- Air con
- Auto Electrics

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mbmotorsstaffordshire.co.uk  
mbmotors@outlook.com

**SELL IT FAST SELL IT LOCAL**

01902 317878  
**ClassifiedAds**



**9**  
**Local Information**

**10**  
**Personals**

**Public Notices**

**GOODS VEHICLE OPERATOR'S LICENCE**  
R K Transport Services Ltd of 12-18 Temple Bar, Willenhall WV13 1SD is applying to change an existing licence as follows: To keep an extra six goods vehicles and two trailers at the operating centre at A C Steels Ltd, International House, Fryers Road, Bloxwich WS2 7LY.  
Owners or occupiers of land (including buildings) near the operating centre(s) who believe that their use or enjoyment of that land would be affected, should make written representations to the Traffic Commissioner at West Midlands Traffic Area Office, Hillcrest House, 386 Harehills Lane, Leeds LS9 6NF stating their reasons, within 21 days of this notice. Representors must at the same time send a copy of their representations to the applicant at the address given at the top of this notice. A Guide to making representations is available from the Traffic Commissioner's Office.  
Dated: January 19, 2017

**LEGAL / PUBLIC NOTICES**  
For convenience you may fax any advertising requirements to  
**Marie Hogg on 01902 713146**  
or email [marie.hogg@expressandstar.co.uk](mailto:marie.hogg@expressandstar.co.uk)  
(remember to include a name/contact number for confirmation of receipt)

**Walsall Council, Planning, Engineering and Transportation**  
Town and Country Planning Act 1990 (as amended) Planning (Listed Buildings and Conservation Areas) Act 1990 Development Management Procedure Order 2015 (as amended)  
The below applications have been made to the Walsall Council. Applications can be viewed at First Stop Shop, Civic Centre, Walsall or online [www.walsall.gov.uk/planning](http://www.walsall.gov.uk/planning). Representations can be made online, email: [planning@walsall.gov.uk](mailto:planning@walsall.gov.uk) or in writing to Head of Planning, Engineering and Transportation, Civic Centre, Darwall Street, Walsall, WS1 1DG. Representations should be made within 21 days of the date of this notice.  
**Please note:** Your letter and personal details will form part of the planning file which is a public document and will be available for inspection at the Council Offices. The information may be released as part of a request under the Freedom of Information Act.  
**17/1556** Mr Tahir Mahmoud FOR: FOUR PROPOSED SIDE FACING DORMER WINDOWS TO ENLARGE EXISTING BEDSIT. AT: 15B, EMERY STREET, WALSALL, WS1 3AJ  
**17/1557** Tahir Mahmoud FOR: FIRST FLOOR REAR EXTENSION TO FLAT FOR USE AS LOUNGE/KITCHEN AREA AT: 15D, EMERY STREET, WALSALL, WS1 3AJ  
**17/1558** St Francis Group (Goscote) Ltd and Homes and Communities Agency FOR: A HYBRID PLANNING APPLICATION COMPRISING:  
AN OUTLINE APPLICATION FOR THE CONSTRUCTION OF UP TO 263 DWELLINGS WITH ASSOCIATED GARDEN AREAS,  
MINOR ESTATE ROADS, PARKING AREAS AND DRIVEWAYS, ALONG WITH PUBLIC OPEN SPACE PROVISION AND ALL  
OTHER ASSOCIATED WORKS  
A FULL PLANNING APPLICATION FOR THREE NEW POINTS OF ACCESS, MAIN ESTATE ROADS THROUGH THE SITE,  
AS IDENTIFIED ON THE SUBMITTED PLANS, AND FOR THE SITE  
INFRASTRUCTURE DRAINAGE STRATEGY.  
AT: FORMER CERRO EMS LTD, GOSCOTE LANE, BLOXWICH, WALSALL, WS3 1SJ  
**17/1559** Notemachin UK Ltd FOR: INSTALLATION OF NON ILLUMINATED FASCIA SURROUND TO ATM. AT: 248, HIGH STREET, BLOXWICH, WALSALL, WS3 3LQ  
**17/1560** Notemachin UK Ltd FOR: THE REMOVAL OF THE WHITE COMPOSITE SECURITY PANEL, REINSTATEMENT OF THE GLAZING AND RESITING OF THE ATM TO THE LEFT HAND SIDE OF THE SHOP FRONT. AT: 248 HIGH STREET, BLOXWICH, WALSALL, WS3 3LA

**ADVERTISEMENTS**  
**CONDITIONS OF ACCEPTANCE**  
1. **Midland News Association Limited** All publications in this group are published by the Midland News Association Limited, registered office Queen Street, Wolverhampton WV1 1ES ('the Company') and this is the address to which any notices should be sent.  
2. **Acceptance** The Company will only accept advertising on these standard terms and no other contract terms or conditions will apply other than those which are implied by statute and cannot lawfully be excluded. In particular the Company will not accept advertising on the basis of advertiser's terms and conditions.  
3. **Content of Advertisements** All advertisements must be legal decent honest and truthful. Advertisements must comply with the British Code of Advertising Practice and all other codes under the general supervision of the Advertising Standards Authority. Advertisements must comply with the requirements of all current legislation including but not limited to the following:- All advertisements must clearly differentiate between trade and private advertising as required by the Business Advertisements (Disclosure) Order 1977. Advertisements offering credit or hire facilities must comply with the Consumer Credit (Advertisement) Regulations 1980.  
All descriptions of goods must be accurate and in no way infringe the provisions of the Trades Descriptions Act 1968.  
Advertisements must not contain any material which is defamatory. You must have permission to use any material contained in your advertisement and must not infringe the copyright moral rights or any other right of any third party.  
The Company reserves the right to refuse to carry any advertisement or to require amendment of any advertisement in its absolute discretion.  
4. **Appearance of Advertisements** Whilst the Company makes every effort to comply with requests, publication on a particular date or in a particular position cannot be guaranteed. The Company reserves the right to alter, suspend, cancel or reject an advertisement at its discretion even after the same has been accepted for publication without being liable to compensate you. You will not be charged for any advertisement which does not appear. If only a part of a series of advertisements appears you will only be charged for the advertisements in the series which actually appear. The Company does not guarantee the publication or extent of supporting editorial and your obligation to pay for advertising will not under any circumstances be dependent upon the appearance or content of editorial. No liability will be accepted for non-appearance of editorial. The Company does not guarantee that advertising will not appear for similar or the same subject matter to your advertisement and no liability shall be accepted as a result of such advertising appearing. It is the advertiser's responsibility to provide any amended copy, whether by electronic or other format, and the Company does not guarantee that it will be able to or will agree to modify, amend or alter any file or copy supplied to it.  
5. **Liability** The Company's liability for any loss or damage caused by any error or omission in the advertisement or any other breach of contract shall not in any circumstances exceed a full refund of any price paid by the advertiser to the Company for the publication of the advertisement or the cost of a further or corrective advertisement of the same type as that which originally appeared. Where a series of advertisements is booked the Company's liability shall not in any circumstances exceed the value of the first advertisement in the series. In the event of any error, misprint or omission in the publication of the advertisement the Company will either re-publish the advertisement or the relevant parts of the advertisement or make a reasonable refund of or adjustment to the cost of the advertisement. If the error does not materially detract from the advertisement then no re-publication, refund or adjustment will be made. It is the advertiser's responsibility to check the content of advertisements and the Company will not accept any liability for loss or damage, or obligation to republish or make a refund or adjustment, arising from re-publication of an advertisement containing an error, misprint or omission which has not been identified by the advertiser after first publication.  
6. **Box numbers** The Company accepts no liability for loss or damage caused by delay in forwarding or omission to forward to the advertiser replies to Box Numbers. Box Numbers must not be used for sending goods, distributing circulars or communications from agents. The Company reserves the right to open and inspect all replies to Box Number and to destroy goods, circulars or communications from agents which are discovered during an inspection.  
7. **Inspection** The Company shall be entitled at any time to inspect any goods or services advertised and may decline to carry further advertising if such inspection is not permitted or if in the Company's opinion the provision of further advertising facilities is not appropriate in view of the nature or quality of the goods or services.  
8. **Indemnity** The advertiser, including any advertising agency involved in placing any advertisement, warrants that it has permission to use for publication by electronic and printed means all material which is included in the advertisement. The advertiser and any advertising agency involved in placing any advertisement agree to indemnify the Company in respect of all charges, costs, claims or damage arising out of the publication of the advertisement, whether the same result from actual or threatened legal action or from some other cause.  
9. **Cancellation** On a request for cancellation or amendment of a classified advertisement being accepted, you will be given a cancellation or amendment number which must be quoted in all subsequent correspondence. Payment of the originally agreed price will be required in full for any advertisement in relation to which the advertiser is unable to supply a valid cancellation or amendment number. Cancellation can only be accepted if the Company is notified of the cancellation by no later than the following deadlines:-  
Lineage, Semi Display - By no later than 6.30pm on the working day prior to publication. Advertisements to appear on Monday must be cancelled by 10 am on the preceding Saturday  
Classified Display - By no later than 24 hours before the date of publication  
Colour/Features - By no later than 10 clear days before the date of publication  
To cancel Lineage, Semi Display and Classified Display advertisements please telephone 01902 317878. To cancel Colour/Features advertisements please speak to the Representative through whom the advertisement was booked.  
10. **Rates** Advertising rates are as laid out in the Company's current rate card which is available on request from the Company's offices. The rates may be varied from time to time in the Company's absolute discretion and without prior notification of the intended variation. The revised rate will be charged for any advertising ordered after the date of variation.  
All gross advertising rates except classified lineage and semi-display are subject to a 0.1% Advertising Standards Board of Finance levy payable by advertisers to help finance the self-regulatory system administered by the Advertising Standards Authority.  
11. **Payment** The Company reserves the right to require pre-payment as a condition of any advertisement being published. Where pre-payment is not required unless different credit terms have been agreed with the advertiser in writing payment must be made within 14 days of the date of issue of the Company's invoice. An additional £2.00 booking charge will be payable if the invoice is not paid in full within this 14 day period.  
Any additional credit facilities which are offered are at the Company's absolute discretion. The advertiser's liability shall be for the full amount of all advertising ordered and shall not be limited to the amount of any credit limit which the Company may impose.  
Payment may be made by [method] cash, cheque or credit/debit card. The advertiser's obligation to pay for other items on an account shall not be affected by the existence of any query over an individual item within that account.  
12. **Data Protection Act** The advertiser's details will be retained by the Company for the purposes of administering our accounts records and so that the Company may notify the advertiser of future advertising opportunities which may be of interest to you. By placing advertising with the Company the advertiser agrees to your details being used for this purpose.  
13. **Applicable Law** These conditions of acceptance shall be governed by and interpreted in accordance with the law of England and Wales.

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\*Advertise any item **FREE** up to the value of **£250**, simply fill out the details below or book online at [bookanad.expressandstar.co.uk](http://bookanad.expressandstar.co.uk)

**ADVERT DETAILS - (ONE WORD PER BOX, 12 WORDS IN TOTAL)**

ADVERT 1			
ADVERT 2			
ADVERT 3			
ADVERT 4			
ADVERT 5			
ADVERT 6			

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Postcode: \_\_\_\_\_ Tel No: \_\_\_\_\_

Please send to: **ClassifiedAds, Express & Star, 51-53 Queen St, Wolverhampton WV1 1ES.**

**IT'S ABSOLUTELY FREE**

\*Private advertisers only, no guns, pets, or livestock. Limited time only  
Free adverts are published within 7 days of receipt, in-paper and online and are limited to 3 lines maximum

**Buy Local, Sell Local**  
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**ClassifiedAds**



# Local Specialists



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www.ollerenshaws.co.uk

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\* Kitchen and Bathroom Specialist \* UPVC Windows and Doors  
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TARMACADAM CONCRETE BLOCK PAVING  
LEADING DOMESTIC & COMMERCIAL CONTRACTORS COVERING  
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Free quotations - All work guaranteed  
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Office 01543 251416  
email: westcot.contractors.ltd@gmail.com

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"BEAT IMPENDING 2018 TIMBER PRICE HIKES"

PANEL SIZE	FEATHEREDGE		8-BAR OVERLAP	
	STANDARD	TANALISED	STANDARD	TANALISED
6' x 6'	£24.00	£27.00	£15.00	£17.00
6' x 5'	£21.50	£24.50	£13.50	£15.50
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TEL: 01543 674688, 07886369958 or 07828693442  
UNIT 7E, ZONE 4, BURNWOOD BUSINESS PARK, WS7 3XD

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A locally based, family run company established in 2007.  
Since the owner is a fully qualified Tree Surgeon with 21 years experience in all aspects of professional Tree Surgery.  
Fully insured, professional, competitive and friendly.  
For a free no-obligation competitive quote from an expert call:

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- All Work Guaranteed

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## Plumbing & Heating

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### WALSALL ROOFING SPECIALISTS

AS RECOMMENDED ON  
**thebestofwalsall**  
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Regis was a popular player in the colours of Albion, Villa and Wolves in a glittering career that saw him lift the FA Cup and play for England

The Baggies so-called Three Degrees with the musical group in the 1970s



Regis meets fans at King's Square indoor market



Brendon Batson and Regis with a relative of Laurie Cunningham

# RIP Big Cyrille – football legend and a gentleman

**TRIBUTES** have continued to pour in from fans all over the world following the death of football legend Cyrille Regis.

The 59-year-old passed away on Sunday night of a heart attack.

Born on February 9, 1958, to Robert and Mathilde Regis in French Guiana, his father moved to Britain, with Regis and the rest of his family following a year later. They initially pitched up in the Portobello Road area before later moving to Stonebridge.

A talented sportsman, Regis impressed in football, cricket and athletics at Cardinal Hinsley School (Haresden) and was called up to the Borough of Brent Boys' football team. He was offered a trial by Chelsea, but was unable to attend due to injury.

Regis trained as an electrician – a trade he continued until becoming a professional footballer – and played Sunday League football for Ryder Brent Valley and Oxford & Kilburn Boys.

He began to bang in the goals following a move to London amateur club Molesey in 1975/76 and when he repeated the feat at Hayes the following season, Albion came calling.

## Important

The 19-year-old was spotted by Baggies chief scout Ronnie Allen and a deal was reached to buy Regis for £5,000 in May 1977, with another £5,000 once he reached 20 appearances. Laurie Cunningham had joined two months earlier, Brendon Batson would sign soon after – they would become three of the most important figures in the club's history and christened The Three Degrees by boss Ron Atkinson.

Allen took over from Johnny Giles as manager and handed the striker his debut in a League Cup tie on August 31, 1977 against Rotherham – and Regis scored twice in a 4-0 win. Three days later, he was on the scoresheet in a 2-1 league victory over Middlesbrough. Regis ended that first campaign with 10 goals in 34 league games – and six more in the FA Cup as Albion finished sixth and reached the semi-final, with Atkinson having replaced Allen in January 1978. In 1978/79 Albion finished third in the First Division and reached the quarter-finals of the UEFA Cup.

After 13 goals in 39 league appearances Regis was voted PFA Young Footballer of the Year. The Three

## SPORTING FEATURE

By Matt Wilson

**“Losing him has turned my whole world upside down. It is a void that will never be filled.”**

Degrees were broken up ahead of the 1979/80 season with Cunningham sold to Real Madrid. With Regis sidelined early on, he would only net eight league goals. Albion finished 10th and exited the cups early.

Fortunes improved in 1980/81 as Regis bagged 14 times in 38 league matches, lifting the Baggies to fourth and a return to the UEFA Cup. Regis' tally of 17 goals in 37 league matches was his best at Albion and he finished second in the Footballer of the Year vote behind Tottenham's Steve Perryman.

He also won the first of five England caps in a 4-0 win over Northern Ireland at Wembley, becoming the third black player to be capped by England after Viv Anderson and Cunningham.

Regis left The Hawthorns in 1984 with 112 goals in 302 games. His eight seasons in Baggies colours were followed by a further seven down the road at Coventry City, where he won the FA Cup in 1987.

Having netted 47 goals in 238 games for Coventry, Regis was reunited with Atkinson at Villa in 1991 – becoming Big Ron's first signing at Villa Park.

He netted on his debut again in a 3-2 success over Sheffield Wednesday and found the net 11 times that season as Villa finished seventh and reached the sixth round of the FA Cup. His minutes were limited the following season – particularly following the £2.3million arrival of Dean Saunders – and his only goal of the campaign would arrive in a 2-1 victory over Nottingham Forest in December 1992.

With his career winding down, he crossed the divide for the old gold and black of Wolves, later dropping through the divisions to play for Wycombe Wanderers and Chester City in Division Three before finally call-

ing time in 1996. After his playing career ended Regis also awarded an honorary fellowship by the University of Wolverhampton in 2001 before becoming a Member of the Order of the British Empire (MBE) in 2008.

As well as working in a range of coaching roles, he became an accredited football agent – including for his nephew Jason Roberts – and continued charity work with wife Julia, including for WaterAid. His legacy continues to inspire footballers of all races today.

Regis leaves behind widow Julia, two children and three grandchildren. In a statement released by Albion, Julia Regis described the 59-year-old legend as her 'soulmate', a 'beautiful man' and 'a wonderful husband, father, grandfather, brother and uncle'.

She said: "Losing him has turned my whole world upside down. It is a void that will never be filled. He was a role model for so many because he always treated everyone he met with kindness and respect."

Albion chairman John Williams said: "Everyone will have their precious memories of him as a family man, as a crusader against bigotry – which can never be under-estimated – and as a man who threw considerable energy into a series of worthy causes."

## Respected

"But for me, I will never forget Cyrille the footballer – a wonderful, wonderful player who had everything and who defenders of the time would have hated facing."

Geoff Snape, secretary of West Brom's Former Players Association said: "A legend, a word that is sometimes used too frivolously but in the case of Big C it was a word that summed him up, a really nice guy, respected by his colleagues."

Tearful Ally Robertson, a former team-mate and close friend, said: "I'm heartbroken. Cyrille is a true great. He was the ultimate gentleman. I cannot believe he has gone."

Steve Bull joined in the tributes, describing his former Wolves team-mate as "a man and a player I looked up to".

John Wile was captain of the trailblazing Albion side of the 70s and 80s that Regis was a part of. He said: "You wouldn't wish to meet a nicer person."

"He was just an absolute gentleman. It's a real sorry day."

## Livermore won't face action over fan fracas

ALBION midfielder Jake Livermore will not face action from the FA after confronting a West Ham supporter who allegedly taunted him over the death of his infant son.

The 28-year-old England international has been reminded of his responsibility not to react to fans whatever the circumstances – though mainly for his own safety and that of innocent spectators.

Livermore became involved in an angry exchange with a supporter sitting just behind the away team's dugout at the London Stadium, after being substituted in the second half of the Baggies 2-1 loss to the Hammers on January 2.

Albion have claimed Livermore was provoked by a remark related to the death of his infant son, Jake Junior, in 2014.

West Ham have identified the fan and are currently investigating the matter. Having asked both clubs for their observations on the incident, the FA is understood to be happy with West Ham's handling of the case.

## Right royal rumble as Duggan checks in

THE first-ever winner of the WWE Royal Rumble will be in the Black Country tomorrow night (Friday) ahead of the event's 30th anniversary.

American wrestling superstar 'Hacksaw' Jim Duggan will be in action at Darlaston Town Hall. He makes the trip across the pond to take top billing on a Pro Wrestling Live card staged by local promoter Matt Powell at the Victoria Road venue.

Duggan, from Glen Falls, New York, won the maiden Royal Rumble in 1988. He went on to become a WWE Hall of Famer and is still signed to the company on a Legends contract. The 63-year-old will dust off his wrestling boots, trusty 2 x 4 plank of wood and use his battle cries of 'Hooo' and 'USA' in the Black Country ring.

Tickets are available, with general admission £6.50, VIP ringside passes £12, a family of four, two adults and two children £22.

For more information, call 07404 279 880. Payment can be made on the doors, which open at 6.30pm for a 7.30pm start.

## EFL Trophy on way to Wolverhampton

THE EFL Championship trophy that Wolves are currently on course to regain will be on show at a city pub next weekend.

Wolves stand top of the pile in the Championship and are on course to win the re-branded title for a second time, the last eight years ago in 2009.

Fans have the chance to see the trophy early when it arrives at the George Wallis, Victoria Street, on Saturday January 27.

Competition sponsors Sky Bet are taking the trophy on a whistle-stop tour and will be in the pub's upstairs function room from 1-3pm.

Selves and photographs with the silverware can be taken as a memento. Tables can be pre-booked, but no tickets are required and admission is free. Donations are welcome for a charity of the George Wallis' choice.

Pub mascot George the Wolf will be on hand to entertain visitors on an afternoon where Wolves are scheduled to play away.

There will be a raffle for football-themed prizes and the day's FA Cup games will be shown across the venue. Contact the pub on 01902 426892.





## It's seven up for Wood as Bees stung

### Walsall Wood 7 Studley 0

WOOD, already 2-0 ahead from a competitive first half came out all guns blazing after the break and just blew the Bees away to consolidate top spot – ending the visitors' title hopes in the process.

Worryingly for the other clubs at the top, all this was done without strikers Paul Sullivan and Sam Agar.

Wood dominated from the off but took 24 minutes to break the deadlock, Tony Clarke put through to chip over keeper Ryan Young.

It took just five minutes for Wood to double their lead. Clarke went down in the box and Lei Brown despatched the spot-kick.

The second half was only a minute old when Wood made it three as Brown pounced to score from close range and it took another three minutes for Ben Lund to open his Wood account.

Wood ripped the Bees apart to score their fifth goal on 72 minutes. From a left wing throw Peter Till played the ball inside to Clarke who carried the ball across the face of the box and set up Jordan Fitzpatrick to roll a 20 yard low effort just inside the right hand post.

From a Lewis Hayden cross to the far post on 76 minutes, Brown pressurised a defender into putting the ball into his own net and with three minutes left Hayden put the finishing touches to a dominant display with a goal from fully 40 yards from the keeper's clearance.

Ikeston are up next as they visit Wood on Saturday.

## Poor form continues with first home loss

### Walsall 20 Leek 33

WALSALL'S poor start to the new year continued as they suffered their first home defeat of the season. Promotion rivals Leek secured a fairly comfortable bonus point victory which has pushed them closer to the play off position.

Prior to kick-off a minute of respect was observed for club stalwart, Dave Cole. The popular prop forward had recently passed away at the age of 89.

Walsall's points came from Sam Garbutt and Dean Ainger tries and two conversions and two penalties from Roger Weston. On Saturday Walsall travel to Whitchurch to take on the unbeaten and runaway league leaders.

Walsall United had a pleasing 19-10 victory over Lichfield 2nds to stay top of division three. Tries came from teenagers Louis Vale and Jacob Lay and centre Richard Clarke, Andy Hawkins adding two conversions.

Against an unusually strong Leek 3rd XV, the thirds lost 31-10. Nick Rose and Lee Phillips scored tries.

Severely depleted Walsall Colts put up a battle, going down 55-26 to Bromsgrove. George Perkins and Lewis Hawkins scored tries, Will Hennessey scored two tries and three conversions.

## Club comes out fighting to join Elite



Successful martial artists

WALSALL Elite Martial Artists fought their way to success at the Scottish and British Championships

Senior instructor, fourth degree black belt Emily-Jane Arms, supported by fellow tutor Asma Riaz, a second degree black belt, missed out on the tag team gold by a single point in Glasgow.

But in Birmingham, Emily-Jane took double gold, at individual and team events. Second degree black belt brothers Billy and Shane Palmer were

both selected by the Tae Kwon Do Association of Great Britain (TAGB) to represent England. Billy took a unanimous win against his Polish opponent as the team took gold. He also took bronze in the men's black belt middleweight continuous sparring division.

Shane represented the junior England team against, Wales, Scotland and Northern Ireland and collected bronze. Joshua Bromwich took home silver at the British Championships in the boys' red belt peewee point stop sparring,

while Japievan Singh struck gold in his first ever championships to be crowned British champion in the boys' yellow belt middleweight division.

Dominic Price showed excellent sparring skills to claim silver but took gold in the Lordswood open Kickboxing Championships, while, Damian Devey, 12 and Tim Sheward, 19, impressed TAGB judges to earn their first and second degree black belts respectively.

# ROBERTS KEEPS SADDLERS IN IT

WALSALL'S Liam Roberts believes practice and hard work are the secret to his outstanding performance in the win over Oxford.

The goalkeeper produced four game-changing saves to inspire the Saddlers to a 2-1 victory over Pep Clotet's side on Saturday.

Roberts, a product of Walsall's academy, made spectacular stops to twice deny former Wolves winger James Henry as well as Wes Thomas and Jon Obika. But the 23-year-old said his performance wouldn't have been possible without the support he receives in training from coach Neil Cutler and fellow glovesman Mark Gillespie.

"On a personal note, I was delighted with my performance but that is what I am in the team to do," the Willenhall-born shot-stopper said.

### Nature

"I train day in, day out with Neil Cutler and Mark (Gillespie) and we work on similar scenarios so when we are called upon we are ready.

"In football you often don't have a lot of time to think. So if you work on different scenarios on the pitch it becomes second nature and you will keep doing the right things."

In a week where supporters protested against owner Jeff Bonser and boss Jon Whitney met with disgruntled fans this was the perfect end and it was Roberts who grabbed the headlines.

His heroics allowed Walsall to break the deadlock just past the hour mark. Erhun Oztumer caught the U's defence napping with a quick free-kick, allowing Luke Leahy to send in a cross which Amadou Bakayoko bundled home.

Moments after the interval, talisman Oztumer battled with John Mousinho and produced a delicate chip over goalkeeper Simon Eastwood.

Oxford got themselves back in it when Alex Mowatt curled in an unstoppable free-kick from 20 yards. But Roberts was not going to be beaten again.



Goalkeeper Liam Roberts produces another top drawer save as Walsall beat Oxford United

## Boss Whitney: I will make you proud

SADDLERS boss Jon Whitney told angry supporters of his determination to win them over after admitting there was a 'lost connection' with fans.

Whitney was at the Banks's on Thursday night alongside directors Stefan Gamble, Dan Mole and Leigh Pomlett.

The question and answer session was held amid growing

unrest among supporters who had voiced concerns about the direction the club is heading in under owner Jeff Bonser.

Whitney told the 300 or so supporters: "I think we have lost a connection with supporters. I know I cannot turn all of you tonight but I'm determined to turn you over the next few weeks and months. I'm deter-

mined to make you, the supporters, proud."

In questions submitted to Bonser – who was not there – the owner reiterated he would consider any "sensible" offers for the club. He also confirmed he would be keen to unite Walsall FC with the stadium, which he owns as a separate entity in a pension fund.

## Six of the best from Darlaston

### Darlaston Tn (1874) 6 Bustleholme 1

WITH both teams in good form and separated by just three points a tight game was expected but Darlaston were in rampant form and ran out easy winners to record their biggest win of the season.

Manager Andy Parkes was forced into two late changes with the division's top scorer Scott Broadway taken ill and keeper Aaron Morris picking up a thigh injury in the warm up giving 16-year-old Ryan Lees-Stevens his debut.

Despite dominating the opening exchanges, Darlaston fell behind to a sucker punch on 23 minutes as Jack Whittall broke clear to slip the ball beyond the advancing Lees-Stevens.

Darlaston were back level within seven minutes through Tyrone Clarke-O'Connell. Sam Giles put them in front five minutes before the break and made it three after 57 minutes. The fourth, two minutes later from Lucas Hough, killed the game as a contest.

The debutant keeper pulled off an outstanding save to deny Bustleholme captain Daniel Wood, while Clarke-O'Connell and Leon Taylor missed good opportunities before the latter finally notched the fifth and the former netted his second of the game.

On Saturday Darlaston will look to extend their unbeaten run to four against Bromyard Town who come to the Paycare Ground on the back of a 5-1 win against Telford Juniors and with three wins in four games. Kick off at Bentley Leisure Pavilion is 2pm.

## Sneekes out after late Brodie winner

### Sutton Coldfield 3 Rushall Olympic 4

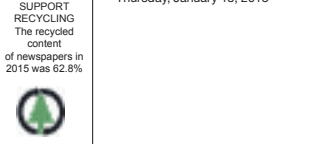
FORMER Pics boss Richard Sneekes was fired as Sutton boss after his old side snatched victory thanks to a late Richard Brodie penalty.

Rushall got off to a flier as skipper Joe Hull rose to nod home a sixth-minute Gurjit Singh corner. The scores were level on 14 minutes courtesy of a Justin Richards penalty.

Richards glanced home to put The Royals in front, but Pics led thanks to two goals from new boy Danny Dubidat.

David Howarth equalised again for Sutton, but when Brodie was fouled in stoppage time, he netted from the spot.

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